

CHINA



MAIL.

Established February, 1845.
With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

VOL. XXXIII. No. 4524. 號一廿月二十年七十七百八千一英 HONGKONG, MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1877. 日七廿月一十年丑丁 PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 8, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street. GEORGE STREET, 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOTH, Ludgate Circus, E. C. BATES, HENDY & CO., 4, Old Jewry, E. C. SAMUEL DEACON & CO., 150 & 151, Leadenhall Street. PARIS AND EUROPE.—LEON DE ROSENY, 19, Rue Monsieur, Paris. NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 133, Nassau Street. AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOTH, Melbourne and Sydney. SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally.—BRAY & BLACK, San Francisco. SINGAPORE AND STRAITS.—SAYLE & CO., Square, Singapore. C. REINER & CO., Manila. CHINA.—SWANSON, CAMPBELL & CO., Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLS & CO., Foochow, HENDER & CO., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, 5,000,000 Dollars.
RESERVE FUND, 650,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.
Chairman—H. HOPKINS, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—F. D. SASSON, Esq.
E. R. BELLIOS, Esq. WILHELM REINER, Esq.
W. H. FORBES, Esq. Ed. TOBIN, Esq.
Hon. W. KESWICK. A. McIVER, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER.
Hongkong, THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.
MANAGER.
Shanghai, EVER CAMERON, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.
ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits—
For 3 months, 2 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 " " " "
" 12 " 5 " " " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East.
Hongkong, August 16, 1877.

Entertainments.

AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB OF HONGKONG.

THE MEMBERS of the above CLUB will give a Performance at the

THEATRE ROYAL, CITY HALL, on

SATURDAY,
January 12th, 1878.

When will be presented a Comedy ENTITLED

"NINE POINTS OF THE LAW," to be followed by a farce by CH. SEELY, Esq., ENTITLED

"Boots at the Swan."

Tickets may be had at Messrs LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. on and after Wednesday, January 2nd.

Doors Open at 8.30. Performance to Commence at 9 O'Clock.

CHAS. C. COHEN, Hon. Secretary.

HONGKONG CHORAL SOCIETY.

THE FIRST CONCERT of the Season will take place on THURSDAY, the 10th JANUARY, 1878, the Proceeds of which will be devoted to the FUND for Relieving the Famine in the NORTH of CHINA.

Hongkong, December 28, 1877. ja11

Intimations.

NEW YEAR HOLIDAY.

THE Undermentioned BANKS will be Closed on TUESDAY, the 1st January, 1878.

For the "Oriental Bank Corporation," C. MORLAND KELL, Manager.

For the "Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China," W. P. NICHOLSON, Actg. Manager.

For the "Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China," R. L. HARPER, Manager.

For the "Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation," T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

For the "National Bank of India, Ltd., O. E. THOMSON, Actg. Manager.

Hongkong, December 28, 1877. ja2

NOTICE.

A. MILLAR & Co.,

PLUMBERS, and GAS FITTERS,
Queen's Road East,
HONGKONG.

September 15, 1877.

Intimations.

4th DRAWING. Chinese Imperial 8 per cent. Loan of 1874.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in conformity with the stipulation contained in the Bonds of this Loan, the following numbers of Bonds to be paid off at par, in Hongkong, on the 31st of December, and in London, on the 19th of February next, when the interest thereon will cease to be payable, were this day Drawn at the Offices of the HONGKONG and SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, situated No. 31, Lombard Street, in this City, in the presence of Mr. WILLIAM NICHOLS, Acting Accountant of the said Corporation, and of the undersigned Notary Public.

NUMBERS OF BONDS DRAWN.

314 Bonds Nos.—	3	1275	2525	3793	5048
	29	1299	2550	3809	5064
	58	1309	2577	3825	5093
	64	1332	2594	3841	5103
	95	1351	2618	3861	5124
	119	1370	2639	3881	5160
	133	1395	2659	3919	5183
	158	1409	2679	3922	5199
	168	1424	2696	3949	5207
	184	1443	2715	3972	5240
	220	1468	2721	3981	5243
	231	1493	2753	4010	5266
	248	1505	2775	4035	5294
	272	1540	2797	4056	5311
	282	1555	2806	4064	5333
	308	1670	2826	4084	5341
	328	1689	2850	4108	5370
	346	1696	2865	4121	5389
	371	1633	2887	4159	5404
	396	1652	2910	4168	5422
	401	1679	2933	4200	5450
	439	1692	2944	4214	5471
	449	1703	2971	4226	5483
	470	1724	2984	4242	5517
	494	151	3015	4275	5536
	507	1763	3026	4284	5557
	523	1799	3059	4313	5572
	548	1808	3076	4341	5586
	570	1835	3099	4354	5601
	580	1849	3116	4398	5631
	614	1861	3134	4408	5650
	634	1884	3153	4404	5666
	690	1912	3178	4424	5681
	675	1929	3184	4450	5717
	683	1958	3206	4461	5736
	716	1976	3222	4483	5744
	727	1997	3241	4509	5767
	742	2016	3261	4536	5793
	768	2024	3288	4564	5815
	790	2028	3310	4562	5831
	895	2077	3339	4596	5869
	832	2098	3359	4611	5865
	845	2109	3370	4636	5898
	870	2125	3393	4653	5916
	887	2150	3401	4679	5927
	920	2171	3428	4691	5944
	925	2183	3457	4718	5978
	952	2204	3476	4736	5998
	980	2224	3491	4747	6002
	1070	2340	3597	4866	6105
	1087	2341	3620	4862	6137
	1104	2369	3635	4883	6159
	1138	2381	3658	4904	6166
	1144	2405	3664	4921	6196
	1174	2440	3699	4941	6204
	1197	2450	3711	4962	6223
	1208	2461	3734	4963	6259
	1224	2496	3759	5002	6273
	1241	2516	3775	5037	

For £100 Sterling each, = £31,400.

For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,

Wm. NICHOLS, Acting Accountant.

Countersigned,
W. W. YENN, Junior, Notary Public,

2 Pope's Head Alley, Cornhill, E.C.
LONDON, 22nd October, 1877.

THE CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE Transfer BOOKS of this Company will be CLOSED from the 20th to the 31st Instant, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
OLYPHANT & Co.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, December 12, 1877. ja1

G. FALCONER & Co.,

WATCH AND CHRONOMETER MANUFACTURERS,

AND JEWELLERS.

NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHARTS AND BOOKS.

46, Queen's Road Central,
Hongkong, August 20, 1877. ja20

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

TENDERS are invited for a LEASE of the HONGKONG HOTEL, the present Five-yearly Lease expiring on the 31st August, 1878. SEALED TENDERS to be sent in on or before the 31st March, 1878, to the Secretary of the HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED, who will supply any information required.

By Order of the Directors,
LOUIS HATSCHELD,
Secretary.

Hongkong, September 19, 1877. ja1

For Sale.

EXTRA FINEST ISIGNY BUTTER, in 1 lb. and 2 lb. Tins, packed specially for LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Choice French JAMS, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Special Agents.

VAN HOBBOKEN'S AVH GIN, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Special Agents.

BASS'S ALE and GUINNESS'S STOUT, Bottled by FOSTER, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Special Agents.

TUDOR'S Danish BEER, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Special Agents.

CURCIER and ADER'S CLARETS, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Special Agents.

BULLOCK LADE'S Scotch WHISKY, specially blended, For LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Very Fine OLD RYE WHISKY, Bottled by LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

SACCONE'S Perfectly Pure SHERRIES, Bottled by LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Choicest Pure PORT, direct from Oporto, Bottled by LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

CUMSHAW MIXTURE, the finest Mixture of new Fooding Tins, Prepared specially for LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

CHUBB'S SAFES, LOCKS, and BOXES, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Special Agents.

LET'S DIARIES for 1878, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Agents.

SILBER LAMPS, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Agents.

BAXTER'S CANVAS, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, December 28, 1877.

Intimations.

NOTICE.

THE SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION of the GROUND and BUILDINGS advertised to take place on the 31st DECEMBER, 1877, has been WITHDRAWN.

Private offers for the same can be made to LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, December 28, 1877. ja2

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

A THIRD and FINAL BONUS of Five per cent. upon Contributions for the year 1876, will be payable on MONDAY, the 31st Instant.

Warrants may be had on application at the Office of the Society, on and after the 20th Instant.

By Order of the Board, E. MOORE, Act. Secretary.

Hongkong, December 21, 1877. ja1

IN THE GOODS OF JAMES SMITH FERRIES, Deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all Creditors and other Persons, having any CLAIMS or DEMANDS upon or against the Estate of JAMES SMITH FERRIES, late Master of the S. S. "ZEALANDIA," who died at Sea on Board the said Vessel, on the 8th day of February 1877, and whose Will was duly proved, and Letters of Administration, with the Will annexed, of whose personal Estate were duly granted to JOHN FAIRBAIRN, of No. 27 Queen's Road, in the Colony of Hongkong, in its Probate Jurisdiction, on the 22nd day of September 1877, are hereby required to send in writing the particulars of their Claims or Demands to the said JOHN FAIRBAIRN at his address aforesaid, or to the Under- signed WILLIAM HENRY BREBETON, the Solicitor of the said JOHN FAIRBAIRN, at the Office of the said WILLIAM HENRY BREBETON, 20 Queen's Road, Hongkong, on or before the 15th day of January, 1878.

And notice is hereby given that at the expiration of the last-mentioned day, the said JOHN FAIRBAIRN will proceed to distribute the Assets of the said JAMES SMITH FERRIES amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard to the Claims of which the said JOHN FAIRBAIRN has then had notice; and that the said JOHN FAIRBAIRN will not be liable for the Assets or any part thereof, so distributed, to any person of whose Claim the said JOHN FAIRBAIRN has not had notice at the time of the distribution.

Dated this 8th day of October, 1877.

Wm. H. BREBETON, Solicitor for the said JOHN FAIRBAIRN.

ja6

DEVORE'S BRILLIANT OIL.

RELIABLE, ECONOMICAL, SAFE!!

DESIRING to benefit by the world-wide reputation of our Oil, certain parties have attempted to imitate our packages. Suits at law have been instituted against the MAKERS and PURCHASERS of these imitations. Buyers should be careful to see that the words "DEVORE'S BRILLIANT" are stencilled on the cases, and the words "DEVORE MFG CO. PATENTS" are stamped on the top of the can.

THE DEVORE MANUFACTURING Co., 80 Beaver and 127 Pearl Streets, NEW YORK, U. S. A.

(j111)

LAMBERT, ATKINSON & CO.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED Ex "STATE OF ALABAMA," &c., AND ARE NOW OFFERING FOR SALE THEIR

XMAS SUPPLY, of Fancy Goods and Table Delicacies.

MORDAN'S SILVER PENCIL CASES, in numerous Fancy and Novel Designs.

Enamel Tortoise-shell CIGAR and CIGARETTE CASES.

Enamelled JEWEL CASES, Ladies' and Gentlemen's DRESSING CASES.

MUSICAL and other ALBUMS. OPERA GLASSES.

Mappin Brothers' and Rodgers' OUT-LET.

Electro-plated CENTRE STANDS.

Do. Revolving Bacon DISHES.

Do. FRUIT STANDS.

Do. SIDE DISHES & Covers.

Do. WAITERS.

Do. TEA & COFFEE Services.

Do. Presentation MUGS.

Do. FISH KNIVES and FORKS in Polished Cases.

Do. FRUIT KNIVES and FORKS in Polished Cases.

Do. LIQUEUR STANDS, and CRUETS.

Do. CLARET JUGS.

Do. BISCUIT BOXES.

Do. CAKE BASKETS.

Do. &c., &c., &c.

CHOICE COSAQUE CRACKERS, IN GREAT VARIETY, and NEWEST DESIGNS.

ELBANT BOTTLE BOXES.

MECHANICAL and other TOYS.

PRESENTATION BOOKS.

CHARLOTTE MORRELL'S KNIGHT OF THE RED CROSS.

SCOTT'S PICTURES, by Venetian Painters.

REID'S GEMS OF DUTCH ART.

SMITHSON'S PICTURESQUE PEOPLE.

ENGLISH PAINTERS OF THE PRESENT DAY.

PICTURES FROM ENGLISH LITERATURE.

CABINET PICTURES.

MY LADY'S BOUDOIR.

Doro and Tennyson's "ANID." VIVIAN.

Capt. MARS' "ANGELICAN MYSTERIES OF PARIS."

DOYLES' FOREIGN TOUR OF BROWN, JONES & ROBINSON.

Michelet's "THE SEA." TROPICAL NATURE.

CASSELL'S POPULAR EDUCATOR.

SCHOOL GIFT BOOKS.

TOY BOOKS, &c., &c., &c.

TABLE DELICACIES OF ALL KINDS.

MUSCATEL BLOOD RAISINS, (very fine).

Finest JORDAN ALMONDS.

SHIRAZ FIGS.

CHOCOLATE, MASSON.

CHOCOLATE Imitation Objects.

Super-fine LIQUEUR CANDIES.

DRAGEES, in Fancy Boxes.

NONGATINES.

FRUITS in Noyaux.

a l'Eau de Vie.

PRUNES. CANDIED PEEL. GE-LATINE.

MINCE MEAT. TRUFFLES.

SAVOURY PIES, VEAL and HAM PIES, GAME PIES, &c.

STRASBOURG TERRINE DE FOIE GRAS.

PHILIPPE & CANAUX'S Assorted PATES.

Reindeer TONGUES. Russia OX TONGUES.

Collared OX TONGUE. OX TONGUE in Jelly.

German Brown CAKES and GINGER NUTS.

HUNTLEY & PALMER'S BISCUITS.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSEAGERIES MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANÇAIS.

The Company's Steamship "TIGRE,"
Comdt. DE GIRARD, will be
despatched for YOKOHAMA
TO-MORROW, the 1st January, 1878, at
Noon.

H. DU POUY,
Agent.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja1

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSEAGERIES MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANÇAIS.

The Company's Steamship "TIGRE,"
Comdt. LORMIER, will be
despatched for SHANGHAI
on WEDNESDAY, the 2nd January, 1878,
at 8 a.m.

H. DU POUY,
Agent.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja2

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & FOCHOW.
The Steamship
"TAIWAN,"

Captain M. YOUNG, will be de-
spatched for the above Ports on
WEDNESDAY, the 2nd Proximo, at Day-
light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAURIE & Co.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja2

FOR MANILA.
The Departure of the S. S.
"ESMERALDA" will be POST-
PONED until WEDNES-
DAY, the 2nd Proximo, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
J. Y. Y. SEAW,
Agent.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja2

NOTICE.
The Departure of the S. S.
"MALABAR" for YOKOHAMA & HIOGO
is unavoidably POST-
PONED until WEDNESDAY, the
2nd Proximo, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja2

FOR SHANGHAI.
The German Steamship
"ATONA,"

Comdt. MILLER, will be de-
spatched as above on WED-
NESDAY, the 2nd January, 1878, at
2 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
WM. PUSTAU & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja2

FOR SINGAPORE, BRISBANE,
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE.
(Calling at the usual Coast Ports, and
taking through Cargo and Passengers
for New Zealand.)

The Eastern and Australian
Mail Steam Co.'s Steamship
"BRISBANE" will be despatched for the
above Ports on FRIDAY, the 4th January,
1878, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja4

COMPAGNIE DES MESSEAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo per S. S.
"Esmeralda," from London, in connection
with the above Steamer, are hereby in-
formed that their Goods are being landed
and stored at their risk at the Company's
Godowns, whence delivery may be obtained
immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on,
unless intimation is received from the Con-
signee, before TO-DAY, the 31st Instant,
at 4 p.m., requesting it to be landed here.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
the Undersigned.

Goods remaining undelivered after Mon-
day, the 7th January, 1878, at Noon, will
be subject to rent and landing charges.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

H. DU POUY,
Agent.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja7

GERMAN STEAMER "ATONA,"
MILLER, Master, FROM LONDON,
PENANG, AND SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above
Steamer are hereby informed, that their
Goods are being landed and stored at their
risk in the Godowns of the Undersigned,
from whence delivery may be obtained.

Consignees wishing to take delivery of
their Goods from the Boats alongside the
What are at liberty to do so.

Goods remaining in store after the 6th
January proximo will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless
written notice to the contrary is given
by 2 p.m. To-day.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
WM. PUSTAU & Co.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja6

FROM LONDON AND SINGAPORE.

THE S. S. "Malabar" having arrived, Con-
signees of Cargo are hereby informed that
their Goods are being landed at their risk
and stored in the Godowns of the Undersigned,
whence and/or from the
What or Boats delivery may be obtained.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the
6th Proximo will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents, S.S. "Malabar."
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja6

A YOUNG DANE, 21 Years of Age, with
much practice in Business, perfectly
conversant with the Scandinavian, German,
and English, and partly with the French
and Spanish languages, WANTS A SITU-
ATION. Offers to be directed to "Karlson
Friesen, Licentiate, 6 Koenigsberg Str."
December 31, 1877. ja7

To-day's Advertisements.

GERMAN BARQUE "NIAGARA,"
FROM HAMBURG.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-
named Vessel are hereby requested to
send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned
for countersignature, and to take
immediate delivery of their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the
Vessel will be landed and stored at Con-
signees' risk and expense.

MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja3

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s S. S. "MIRZAPORE."

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-
named Vessel, from Bombay and
Intermediate Ports, and in connection with
the Steamers "HINDOSTAN" from London,
and "MALWA" from Calcutta, are hereby in-
formed that their Goods are being landed
and stored at their risk in the Company's
Godowns, at West Point, whence delivery
can be obtained from this date.

Goods not delivered by the 7th Proximo
will be subject to rent.

ADAM LIND,
Superintendent.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja6

NOTICE.

THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr
JOSEPH PERROTT BARNES in our
Firm in China CEASES from This Date.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja80

NOTICE.

I HAVE This Day established myself at
this Port as a MERCHANT and COM-
MISSION AGENT, under the Style or
Firm of GEO. R. STEVENS & Co., who
will henceforward conduct the Agency of
the AUSTRALIAN STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY.

G. R. STEVENS.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877.

FURNITURE SALE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. have
been instructed to sell by Public
Auction, at the Residence of Lieutenant
W. MOYERS, H. M. 28th Regt., on

THURSDAY,
3rd January, 1878, at 2 p.m., "Norman
Cottage," Albany Road.

The whole of the Household FURNI-
TURE, comprising: Covered Chairs,
Couches, Tables, Curtains, Lamps, Glass,
Crockery and Plated Ware, Bedsteads,
Wardrobes, Mirrors, etc., etc.

On view on Thursday from 10 a.m.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash on delivery
in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.1.7.

All Lots, with all faults and errors of
description, at purchasers' risk on the fall
of the hammer.

Hongkong, December 31, 1877. jan3

THEATRE ROYAL,
CITY HALL.

THURSDAY & SATURDAY,
the 3rd, and 5th January, 1878.

PROFESSOR THORN,
Artist to
HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY,
AND TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE
VICEROY, LORD LYTTON.

Patronized by several reigning Princes of
Europe, and by all the Governors
of India, will appear in His

MARVELLOUS SCIENTIFIC
and
PLEASING DRAWING ROOM
ENTERTAINMENT,
embracing the

PHENOMENA OF MODERN SPIRIT MEDIA,
entertained with
PROFESSOR THORN'S AMUSING AND
INSTRUCTIVE EXPLANATION,
HOW IT'S DONE.

One of the following Experiments will be
Performed at the Conclusion of
every Entertainment:—

THORN'S FLYING HOLLANDER CAGE;
MARVELLOUS DISAPPEARING OF THE
CAGE with the CANARIES and the re-
appearing in full View of the Audi-
ence.

"THORN'S MEDIUM SECURED IN THE SACK
OF THE
COUNT DE MONTE CRISTO."

"Palogneda or taking A Live Man to
Pieces and restoring Him again,
through the aid of Invisible
Agencies."

"NEW LIGHT SEANCES."

"THE MEDIUM FLYING IN THE AIR
AND TAKING THE CABINET
WITH HIM."

"THE SPIRITS SUPERSEDED."

"INEXPLICABLE BLOOD WRITING."

"CLAIRVOYANCE OR ANTI-
SPIRITUAL MANIFESTATIONS," &c.

Professor THORN has been presented with
letters, expressing approbation of his Enter-
tainments by 22 reigning Emperors and
Princes of Europe. The latest letter that
he has received being in English, he quotes
as follows:—

"Professor THORN gave one of his pleas-
ing Entertainments at Simla under
my patronage and a private Soiree at
Government House. I was much
pleased with his Performances and
think him a remarkably skilful and
graceful professor of Leggerdmain."

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, (Sd.) LYTTON,
SIMLA,
8th June, 1877.

PRICES OF ADMISSION: 2 Dollars.
To all Parts of the House, &c., &c.

Seats can now be secured at Messrs
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.'s, where a Plan of
the House can be seen.

Doors Open at 8.30 p.m., Commence at
9 p.m., precisely.

For particulars, see Programmes, and
other Hand Bills.

Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja6

To-day's Advertisements.

U. S. MAIL LINE.
PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP
COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA
OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING
AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamer "CITY OF
PEKING" will be despatched for San
Francisco, via Yokohama, on SATUR-
DAY, the 19th January, at Noon, taking
Passengers, and Freight for Japan, the
United States, and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for trans-
portation to Yokohama and other Japan
Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and
Inland Cities of the United States via Over-
land Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and
Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central
and South America by the Company's and
connecting Steamers.

A REDUCTION OF TWENTY PER
CENT on regular rates is granted to
OFFICERS OF THE ARMY AND NAVY,
AND MEMBERS OF THE CIVIL AND
CONSULAR SERVICES IN COMMI-
SSION.

Freight will be received on board until
4 p.m., 18th January. Parcel Packages
will be received at the office until 5 p.m.
same day; all Parcel Packages should be
marked to address in full; value of same
is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Overland
Cargo should be sent to the Company's
Offices in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the
Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage
and Freight, apply to the Agency of the
Company, No. 9, Praya Central.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, December 31, 1877. ja19

Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor
Owners will be Responsible for any
Debts contracted by the Officers or Crew
of the following Vessels, during their stay
in Hongkong Harbour:—

ALPHINGTON, British barque, Captain G.
Cunningham.—Wieser & Co.

CLUBBING, British ship, Captain E.
Shrover.—Wieser & Co.

COLORADO, American ship, Captain In-
gram.—Russell & Co.

KATE CARRIE, British barque, Captain
James Wilson.—Melchers & Co.

BROOKHALL, British ship, Captain H.
Bate.—Russell & Co.

CHARTER OAK, American ship, Captain
Staples.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

FORMOSA, German 8-m. schooner, Capt.
Schweizer.—Melchers & Co.

ANNIE S. HALL, American barque, Capt.
Chas. H. Nelson.—Captain.

BIRKER, British ship, Captain W. Roy-
nolds.—Order.

JURGEN, German barque, Capt. W.
Windt.—Stemmen & Co.

SIR JAMSETJEE FAMILY, British ship,
Capt. C. Cobb.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

GLENFARVE, British barque, Capt. Lang-
—Chinese.

VESTA, German barque, Capt. R. Dirks.
—Melchers & Co.

RAJANATHAN, British str., Capt.
Geo. T. Hopkins.—Stemmen & Co.

PETER, German 3-m. schooner, Captain
H. Möller.—Eduard, Schellhaas & Co.

R. O. RICKMERS, German ship, Captain
R. O. Stolt.—Wm. Pustau & Co.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Dec. 29, "Niagara," German barque, 920,
W. Wleghusen, Hamburg July 10, Gen-
eral.—Melchers & Co.

Dec. 29, "Menelaus," British steamer, 1659,
R. F. Scale, Shanghai Dec. 25, and Amoy
28, General.—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Dec. 29, "Tejo," Portuguese gunboat, from
Macao.

Dec. 30, "Altona," German steamer, 1179,
A. Müller, Singapore Dec. 21, General.—
WM. PUSTAU & Co.

Dec. 30, "Malabar," British steamer, 1204,
W. H. Gould, Singapore Dec. 23, General.
—JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Dec. 30, "Yokohama," British steamer, 289,
Hawkins, Haiphong Dec. 23, and Holbow
27, Rice.—KWOK ACHONG.

Dec. 30, "Tutuila," German schooner, 60,
Loser, Bornham's Island Oct. 15, and Guay
Dec. 20, Berche-de-mer and Copper.—
CAPTAIN.

Dec. 30, "Norna," British steamer, 600,
Walker, Swatow Dec. 29, General.—KWOK
A-CHONG.

Dec. 31, "Tigre," French steamer, 2500,
Lormier, Marseilles Nov. 18, Naples 20,
Port Said 20, Suez 27, Aden Dec. 3, Co-
lon 13, Galle 14, Singapore 22, and Sal-
gon 26, Malls and General.—MESSAGERS
MARITIMES.

Dec. 31, "Mirzapore," British steamer,
2019, A. Parth, R.N.R., Bombay Dec.
11, Galle 17, Penang 21, and Singapore
24, Malls and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Dec. 31, "Esmeralda," British steamer, 395,
Cullen, Amoy Dec. 30, 3.15 a.m., General.
—J. Y. Y. SEAW.

Dec. 31, "Brisbane," British steamer, 901,
Reddell, Sydney Dec. 1, via Queensland,
Cooktown Dec. 11, and Singapore 23,
General.—GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

Dec. 31, "Tehran," British steamer, 1671,
A. H. Johnson, Shanghai Dec. 23, Malls
and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Dec. 30, "Jylland," for Guam.

30, "Douglas," for Coast Ports.

30, "Albay," for Holbow and Haiphong.

30, "Lee Yuen," for Shanghai.

31, "Thos. A. Goddard," for New York.

31, "Comet," French mail-of-war, for a
cruise.

31, "Orange Grove," for Takow.

31, "T'o," for Hongkong, g.b., for Macao.

31, "Goh," for Bangkok.

31, "Sphie," for Haiphong.

31, "Danube," for Bangkok.

CLEARED.

Brema, for Quinhon.

Malina, for Singapore.

Washi, for Holbow.

Norna, for Swatow.

CLEARED.

Takow, for Coast Ports.

Malabar, for Yokohama.

Golden Kussel, for Hamburg.

Mangerton, for Quinhon.

Frederick Perthes, for Takow.

Canton, for Manila.

Irene, for Singapore.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per "Tigre," for Hongkong: from Mar-
seilles, Mr and Mrs Allen, Mr and Mrs
Crawford, Mr and Mrs Hillier, Messrs
Samson, Inverary, and Moreton; from
Port Said, Mrs Mariotti; from Singapore,
Mr MacGregor; from Saigon, Bros. Simeon
and Lubert; and 110 Chinese.

Per "Malabar," at 11.30 a.m., on
Wednesday, the 2nd January, in-
stead of as previously notified.

Per "HIOGO," at 4.30 p.m., on Wed-
nesday, the 2nd January.

Per "PARSEE," at 4.30 p.m., on Wed-
nesday, the 2nd January.

Per "MALABAR," at 4.30 p.m., on
Wednesday, the 2nd January.

Per "TAIWAN," at 5 p.m., on Wed-
nesday, the 2nd January.

Per "ESMERALDA," at 4.30 p.m., on Wed-
nesday, the 2nd January.

Per "ATONA," at 4.30 p.m., on Wed-
nesday, the 2nd January.

Per "BRISBANE," at 4.30 p.m., on Wed-
nesday, the 2nd January.

Per "MALABAR," at 4.30 p.m., on Wed-
nesday, the 2nd January.

Per "ATONA," at 4.30 p.m., on Wed-
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Per "BRISBANE," at 4.30 p.m., on Wed-
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Per "MALABAR," at 4.30 p.m., on Wed-
nesday, the 2nd January.

Per "ATONA," at 4.30 p.m., on Wed-
nesday, the 2nd January.

Police Intelligence.

ALLEGED ROBBERY FROM THE PERSON.

James Welch, a seaman unemployed, was charged with stealing a purse, containing \$3, from the person of Charles Smith, a coloured man, cook and steward of the British barque *Martha Jackson*.

Smith stated that he came on shore yesterday and had \$15 with him; he bought a lot of things and had a number of drinks. One lot of things cost \$4.50, he paid \$1.50 for a box, and 25 cents for cigars, and had more than a dollar's worth of drink. He had been drinking with the defendant whom he had not known before, and the defendant proposed to go and see some girls. It was then about 8 o'clock. They went to a brothel, and a girl asked complaint if he was going to stay there; he said yes, but the defendant said "Come out; come to another house." The girl asked complaint to give him money, and he pulled out his purse, when the defendant snatched the purse out of his (complaint's) hand, and ran away, and the girl and complaint followed him. Complaint counted his money in the public house; he had \$3 in paper and the rest in silver, making in all \$8. The defendant saw him count the money. The defendant and complaint had both been drinking.

In reply to defendant he said: You took both silver, and paper at the same time; they were both in the same purse. I counted the money at the public house. I treated you and two soldiers and another chap, before I went out. I do not know if we went to Oke's.

Defendant: Do you recollect my spending a dollar, when you drank Lemonade and I drank Sarsaparilla?

Answer: No; I never drank after I treated the soldiers. I remember paying my chair coolie ten cents. I only went into one brothel; I never went into a second brothel.

Defendant: How much money did I take from you?

Answer: Eight dollars. I had three paper dollars and I had six, seven, eight dollars.

Mr. Russell: Is that how you count? Complaintant: Yes; I had six, seven, eight. I had one dollar, that was one; and I had another dollar that was two, and another Hongkong dollar that was three, and another dollar that was eight.

Mr. Russell: Do you keep accounts on board as steward?

Complaintant: Yes; I keep account of sugar. I had four dollars in silver, and three paper dollars, that made eight.

Mr. Russell: Suppose you had ten dollars in one pocket and fourteen in the other, how much would that be?

Answer: Twenty. Four and two are eight, not seven, no—

Mr. Russell: Really I cannot take your statement. You cannot put the simplest sums together. It is very unfortunate for you, but I cannot place any reliance upon your statements. You may be desirous of telling the truth, but you cannot count. Stand down.

Adam Smith (P.C. 47) sworn, said that a woman told him two men had been in No. 28 brothel, and one had snatched a purse from the other and ran away. Witness found the complaintant sitting on the pavement in East Street, and understood him to say that he had \$20 taken from him; he then said \$10, and in fact did not appear to be very clear as to what the amount he had lost was. He was not capable of taking care of himself, so witness put him into a chair and took him to the Station, and he was kept in the Charge Room.

Sergeant Toomey proved arresting the defendant. The last witness told him a man had been robbed of \$20 and he (Sergeant Toomey) made enquiries and the defendant was pointed out to him as the man who took the money, by the mistress of brothel, No. 28 East Street. The defendant denied the charge and said "I guess you've got the wrong man." The Sergeant told him to come to the station, but the defendant did not want to come, and the Sergeant told him he would have to use force. He offered the Sergeant \$3 to let him go. The defendant said "To speak the truth I took only three dollars off the man and I intended to give him the money back in the morning. At the station he produced three silver dollars out of his pocket and gave them to the Inspector. He said he had told the Bar-keeper at the British Inn about taking the three dollars witness made enquiries but the statement was not substantiated, the bar-keeper saying he knew nothing about it. The defendant appeared to know what he was talking about, and was quite sober. He handed his purse to Inspector Mackie.

In reply to defendant: You told me you belonged to no ship.

Defendant:—I told you I had taken the three dollars, and would give them to you as I did not wish to go to the station, did I not?

Answer: Yes, when you found I would not take \$2 to square the matter. The complaintant said he did not know you, and you said you did not know the complaintant.

An inmate of the brothel was next called, and said the complaintant and defendant came to her house to remain; witness asked the complaintant to pay some money. She wanted \$1.50. The complaintant pulled out a purse to pay, when the defendant snatched it out of his hand, and ran down the stairs. The defendant made a great noise in the house, and the police came and took him away.

In answer to defendant she said he ran down stairs after he had taken the purse. She recollected that she had brought him some water, first hot, and then cold, and recollected a girl offering her services, and defendant's refusing to have anything to do with anyone in the house. This was before he took the purse.

Mr. Russell to witness: Would you know the purse if you saw it again?

No answer.

Mr. Russell: Have you had your breakfast this morning? (laughter).

No reply.

After a deal of questioning, she said she would know the purse again.

The mistress of the brothel (No. 28 East Street) gave corroborative testimony; she pointed out the defendant to Sergeant Toomey.

Charles Leaboda, the bar-keeper of the British Inn, was called and stated that the defendant was living at the British Inn. Defendant never told him that he had taken any money from the complaintant. He was formerly second mate of the American schooner *Mignon*.

Inspector Mackie proved taking the charge. The defendant produced three dollars which he said he had taken from the complaintant, and added that he had told the bar-keeper of the British Inn of his

having the money. On searching him he found a purse containing six paper dollars, half silver dollars and an American half-dollar besides small change and a promissory note for \$175 payable at the U. S. Consulate. The purse said to have been stolen had not been found.

Mr. Russell said he intended to send the case to the Supreme Court for trial by a Jury. He thought it would be only fair to the defendant; the woman and complaintant both swore that the money was in a purse, whilst the defendant stated that it was not in a purse. Mr. Russell thought there was evidence to show that he had taken the money feloniously, but it would be much better that the defendant should have the benefit of a trial by Jury. Meanwhile he would remand the case until Monday, in order to give the police an opportunity to find the purse. He would admit the defendant to bail after Monday.

The prisoner thanked His Worship.

LARCENY.

Chun Ayau, a rice-pounder, was sent to six months' hard labour, for stealing a silver button off the jacket of a woman at the Theatre.

FIGHTING.

Several men were fined in sums of one dollar and half a dollar, for fighting in the streets.

STEALING FISH.

Lau Kun Mui, a boatman unemployed, and two hawkers, were charged by Sergeant Grant with stealing 93 catfish and a Chinese anchor; and Ng Alok, and two others, boatmen, were charged with receiving the same, well knowing it to be stolen. Mr. May committed them for trial. The first three were old offenders.

H. E. KWOH SUNG TAO'S DIARY.

(Continued.)

We give below another instalment of His Excellency Kwoh Sung Tao's Diary of his voyage to England at the head of the Chinese Mission.

December 7.—The departure of the steamer delayed for one day in consequence of repairs. The Governor of Hongkong, Sir Arthur Kennedy and Consul Robertson came to pay me a visit. In the course of the conversation, I spoke of the excellence of the system of the Central School. His Excellency sighed and said that the scholars were chiefly the children of poor families who went to the School only to study for one or three years and then left with an indifferent knowledge acquired therein, to obtain employment, and that it was on account of this that there were very few accomplished scholars. From this the conversation turned on the fairness of the foreign method of administering justice, in the dispensation of which there was no partiality whatever, that in the Gaol wherein people of all nationalities were confined for offences, they were treated all alike without respect of persons. I thereupon enquired if I could pay a visit to the place. His Excellency gladly replied that I could, and then gave directions to Captain O'Callaghan to send chairs to take us there, and asked Consul Robertson to accompany us. There were two superintendents of the Gaol, one Chief and one Assistant. When we arrived, Mr. Tomlin, escorted us into the building.

There were three stories to the building. Prisoners for serious crimes were lodged in the top story. In the bottom story, there was one man to each room, and in the upper story, there were three men to one room. There were turnkeys who kept the doors of the cells closed. The Gaol was divided into separate apartments, some standing by themselves, and some facing each other, forming two rows, but they were all provided with iron gates. The cells under lock and key were provided with small wooden beds in the centre in proportion to the number of prisoners lodged therein. Blankets, mattresses, bedding, towels and basins were all provided. The bedding must be kept tidy on the beds every day, and if any prisoner did not do so according to regulations, his ration allowance would be shortened. Of the prisoners confined therein there were Europeans, Malacca-men and Indians, numbering over 30 men; to Chinese prisoners there were 514. Some of these men were in for fines ranging from \$200 to \$4 or \$5; and the long-sentenced prisoners were confined some for five years, and others for seven years, while some were confined for the short period of five days. But there were others who were under sentence for life, and in the treatment of prisoners, there seemed to be three grades, some being under close confinement; some under long sentences being employed in picking oakum and mat-making; while some were employed in stone-carrying and shot drill. As to shot drill, there were three places for the purpose, one for Europeans, one for Malacca-men, and one for Chinese. They were drilled at this practice according to military rule, and were formed into groups of five or ten; the duration of the drill was two hours. Those not to the task of stone-carrying were placed apart, and their crimes were of a more serious nature. In the room where these under close confinement were there was set up an iron machine which was turned by the hand, (the crank). The revolutions per day were 14,000, and there was a register attached to it to indicate the number of revolutions. If any prisoner could not perform the requisite number of revolutions, his ration allowance would be reduced. Each prisoner was allowed two meals, consisting on each occasion of a basin of rice, and four small fish. Those under long imprisonment were allowed meat, and the rice supplied them was of a finer quality. There was also a female ward, and each woman was lodged in a cell. Mr. Tomlin guided us to all parts of the Gaol, the cells, the stone-carrying yard and the shot-drill yard. We happened to come to a place where over 100 men were working in an indentation by the hand; they all made an impression by the hand, they all made rows, assuming their positions with great alacrity, and simultaneously saluting us by raising their hands to their forehead. Even at the place of the crank, the moment the outer door was opened, the men all stood up on a loud order being given, came up to the door and stood still with their hands down. The discipline was perfect, and was much to be admired. Outside of the prison was the bath-house, where each prisoner was expected to wash himself once a day, and in the Gaol, there was a Chapel in which divine service was performed once every seven days.—Sunday, when all prisoners attended. There was also a Hospital,

where sick prisoners were kept, and there was a doctor in charge of it. There was likewise a dead house for dead prisoners. As to cleanliness, the place was kept clean by rubbing rosin (carbolic acid) on the floor, and not only had smells were dispelled but even the exhalations of human beings were not perceived, so that a visitor was apt to forget that this was a place of confinement. Hai Tsai Ming (probably a member of the mission) told me that in former times, the prisoners were set to work on building walls and repairing roads, but that Sir Arthur Kennedy commenced the system of confining them in the Gaol and not allowing them to work outside. The object of carrying stone, shot drill and crank was to give them hard labour, and to exercise their muscles in order to direct the circulation of their blood, and to prevent the diseases arising from inactivity. Among the instruments of punishment there were the chain and the stocks; they were instruments for the feet. There was also the whip (cat) which was made of ropes. When lashes were administered to the number of fifty, the skin became lacerated. Persons dangerous to the peace and good order were branded with a ring on their neck and then sent out of the place, and not allowed to remain in Hongkong, but some of them tried to obliterate the ring brand by paring it off with a knife, and then rubbing over the wound with ointment, but a scar would be left, and when the men were re-arrested by the Police, they would be kept in imprisonment again, in proportion to the magnitude of their original offence. Such was the law, and it was upheld.

Manila.

(Translated from Manila Papers.)

A Regatta was arranged to take place on the 8th December between the boats of the various vessels in the harbour, and the result was most satisfactory. There were no less than seven boats started, the course being one and a half mile. Capt. R. Norton's boat came out the winner, who made the course in 27 minutes. The second boat took 27½ minutes, and the rest came in by half or one minute later, and the last boat 31 minutes. Among the boats which took part in the contest were those of the *Undine*, *Staghound*, *Growler*, and *Exopla*.

The German barque *F. H. Drews* and the British barque *Elmstone* were advertised to sail for Falmouth, the former on the 22nd Dec. and the latter on the 24th.

The British and American ships *Horn* and *Criterion* were advertised to sail for New York on the 22nd Dec.

The *Japan* and the *Nuevo Constante* will load timber for Hongkong at the ports of Negros and Tayabas respectively.

Out of the 16,000 mals offered at auction on the 21st December, 10,082 mals were sold for a total value of \$122,761.50, including \$1,186 of premium.

Although the date is not yet fixed for the Spring Races of 1878, the events of the three days' meeting are already arranged, and there will be five events on the first day, and six events on each of the two following days. The Challenge Cup, which is now in the possession of Mr. Oppel since March last when he won it, according to the rule, for want of competitors, will be run for again in the forthcoming meeting.

A meeting of several professional gentlemen, artists and writers, took place in the house of Professor Gonzales, with the view of forming a Lyceum of Arts. The By-Laws framed by Mr. Arellano were read and approved after a slight alteration having been made. A board of management, composed of four gentlemen, was then formed, and the society, it is said, will soon be inaugurated.

A British war-vessel, which arrived here on the 6th December from Labuan, brought three natives of the Philippines, rescued by a party now engaged to liberate them from the hands of their owners, to whom they had been sold into slavery at Pandanan by the kidnappers.

A cargo of 230 quintales tobacco leaf of primers Isabela kind, has been shipped on board the steamer *Paraguay* on the 11th Dec. for London.

Another dividend of 5 per cent. in the estate of Messrs Russell and Sturgis will be distributed, and this, together with what has previously been paid, amounts to 25 per cent. The total dividend, it is hoped, will exceed 40 per cent., as there are yet important properties to be disposed of.

The work of lighting reform at Manila has been actively prosecuted, and many of the old oil lamps in the principal thoroughfares have been substituted by new ones for kerosene, and by the 1st of January 1878 the streets of Manila will be illuminated with kerosene as far as the new lamps have been able to be erected.

During the first fortnight of December the amount of \$133,350 in Spanish silver coins has been imported, and the export of precious metals during the same period was \$2,878 in gold dust and \$800 in gold bar.

The rain-fall in Albay lately has enabled the transplanting of paddies to commence, which grain was quoted at 12½ reales per cavan, and dark rice from \$3 1 real to \$3 2 reales per cavan; the white rice has reached from \$4 2 reales to \$4 4 reales. Cocunut was quoted at 8 reales per 100.

It is reported from Albay that on 23rd of November last, a woman in the district of Bacon, named Silvestra Diosa, died in the 18th year of her age, and on the 2nd of Dec. a man named Basilio Amador of the same district, died at the age of 107 years. It is not uncommon in this province to have such cases of longevity, because not many years ago we remember having reported the death of a native there at 180 years of age,

China.

FOOCHOW.
(Herald, Dec. 20th.)

The recent death of a faithful old canine friend and companion, known to many members of the community as "Wilcox," evoked the following impromptu epitaph, which is published by permission of poor old "Wilcox's" disconsolate master. We may premise by stating that "Wilcox's" remains underwent a post-mortem examination, and that the cause of death was traced to that common malady—worms in the heart.

Filialia got round his heart,
He lost his appetite,
He would not even eat a tart,
He was a piteous sight.
We was him in his wooden box,
The grave dug was wide,
We buried him, our old "Wilcox,"
The day on which he died.

The Annual Meeting of the American Methodist Episcopal Mission commenced its sessions at the American M. E. Church in this Settlement on Wednesday evening, the 19th instant, when the opening sermon was preached by the Rev. D. W. Chandler.

On Thursday morning, the 20th instant, the Rev. Bishop Wiley organized the Fochow Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, consisting of five foreign missionaries, five native elders, five native deacons, and five candidates for orders. Committees were appointed, and the characters of all the elders were examined.

PLEVNA AND ITS DEFENCES.

The town of Plevna, or, in the Bulgarian tongue, Plewen, is situated at the junction of two small streams. Both these brooks have a separate course of from six to seven miles in length, and, anling immediately below the town, flow as one stream, about two miles farther to the westward, into the river Wid. According to an article published in the last number of the *Militär-Wochenblatt*, the town of Plevna before the outbreak of the present war had a population of 17,000, the greater number of whom were Bulgarians and Mussulmans, with a mixture of Circassians, Jews, and gipsies. Since hostilities began, however, a large number of fugitives from Nicopolis, Siatova, Lofcha, and other places, have sought refuge in Plevna; so that the number of inhabitants has become nearly double what it formerly was. The only buildings in the town of any architectural pretensions or in any way remarkable are two Bulgarian churches, a Turkish mosque, and a large hospital, built during the time when Midhat Pasha was governor-general of the province. Still the town, lying in a valley, bordered among a multitude of fruit-trees, has a picturesque appearance; and, being sheltered by high ground from the cold north wind, enjoys an exceptionally mild and healthy climate.

The positions occupied by Osman Pasha round Plevna lie upon heights which surround and command the town on three sides—on the north, east, and south. To the westward only, towards the Wid, is the ground level and open. From this latter river, a range of heights stretches away to the eastward, on the north of the town, to the now well-known village of Gravitz. Of these hills the highest points are near the villages of Opanetz, Bukova, and Gravitz. On the east of Plevna again, between the Gravitz and Tuteniza steams, are two long spurs of high ground, falling with steep slopes towards the watercourses on the north and south, and towards Plevna itself on the west. On the south of the town, finally, a range of hills runs from the Tuteniza to the Wid, offering a remarkably strong defensive position, as the ground at the base of their southern slopes is swampy, and these latter themselves are steep and cut up by rocky and precipitous ravines. Before the 18th of July, the day on which the advanced guard of Osman Pasha's army entered Plevna, the town was entirely without any artificial defences; but, following their traditional tactics, the Turks, as soon as they took possession of it, began at once to use the spade. The first place thus fortified was the convent of St. Nestor, a building with massive stone walls, situated about half-way between Plevna and Gravitz, and in which the headquarters of Osman Pasha were in the first instance established. Three days afterwards—immediately, that is to say, after the repulse of the first Russian attack on the 20th of July—Major Kisa Bey, the general staff, was directed by Osman Pasha to prepare a scheme for fortifying the whole of the heights round the town, and especially the Gravitz hill, upon which the Russian batteries had come into action during the attack alluded to. By the 30th of July, when the second attack was made by General Schildner-Schuldner upon Osman Pasha, many of the works thus designed were completed, and among them notably the celebrated Gravitz redoubt, now in the possession of the Roumanians. This work, situated to the north of the high road from Plevna to Gravitz, had a very strong profile, and was arranged both for musketry and artillery defence. The parapet was ten feet high, and the ditch ten feet deep; while a number of shelter trenches were traced, both in front of the principal work and on its flanks, to give a second tier of musketry fire. The second Gravitz redoubt, which opened fire for the first time on the 11th of September, is situated almost due west of the first described work. Its garrison consisted of 1,000 men and six guns, and its profile was as formidable as that of the first redoubt. The third Turkish entrenchment, which is quite as large and as strong a work as either of the other two, bears the name of Bukova Tabia, or Fort Bukova, and is placed to the westward of the road from Plevna to Nicopolis, immediately to the westward of the small village of Bukova. These three works formed the main defences on the range of heights to the northward of Plevna; but the intervals between the second and third, and between this latter again and the river Wid, are occupied by shelter trenches of strong profile and bordered for heavy field guns, the whole traced so as to give a powerful cross-fire over most of the ground within range; while an especially formidable battery has been constructed in rear of the opening between the first and second work, for the defence of the road leading from the village of Gravitz into Plevna. On the east of the town the main defensive work is situated on the eastern extremity of the high ground between the Gravitz and Tuteniza streams, and immediately to the north of the village of Radichewo. This work is also a large redoubt, with arrangements for both artillery and musketry fire, and having a parapet ten feet high and a ditch ten feet deep. It is also, like the works on the north of the town, surrounded by shelter trenches. To the westward of it is a somewhat smaller redoubt, on the spur

which from Radichewo declines towards Plevna. Immediately above the town itself, between the two streams already frequently mentioned, is placed a large portion of the Turkish camp, also protected by several open works and lines of shelter trenches; the whole forming a second barrier against any advance which might be undertaken upon Plevna over the ground between the two brooks. On the south of the town the defences consist of three large open works, to the west of the road entering Plevna from Lofcha, and occupying the heights extending from the Tuteniza brook to the river Wid; while in rear of these Asit Pasha's division occupies a strongly entrenched camp. These troops, which form the reserve of Osman Pasha's army, are consequently stationed in a central position, whence they can be carried with equal readiness to reinforce either the right or left wing. Especial care has been bestowed by Osman Pasha upon the strengthening of this, the southern section of his circle of defensive works—probably because the outer entrenchments covered the second road leading from Plevna to the left bank of the Wid, along which, until the communication was cut by the force under General Gourko, the convoys coming from Sophia or Orhanie entered the town. Finally, on the west of the Wid four strong open works, connected and supported by batteries and shelter trenches, complete the circle of defences round Plevna, and cover a stone bridge by which the highway leading to Sophia crosses the river.—*Fall Mail Budget.*

Miscellaneous.

The *Hochi Shimbun* relates the following story:—In the district of Shinoyama Kawa, Kagoshima Ken, lived an old samurai named Takagi, who had two children, a son named Unkichi aged thirty-one, and a daughter ten years younger named Teru. At the time when the Satsuma insurgents were about to enter Higo, Unkichi came to his father and told him that he had joined the rebels, and was about to start with them on the campaign. His father, however, remonstrated with him in such strong terms, that he saw the folly of his course, and going to the *Kuchō* stated that he should withdraw from the cause. The *Kuchō* approved his resolution and made it known to the rebel leader Hemmi. The latter, however, on hearing of it, was very angry, and believing that the refusal of Unkichi to join his forces arose from the fact that he had a cousin in the service of the Government in Toki, who had dissuaded him from his previous intention, gave orders for Unkichi to be assassinated, which was accordingly done. While the father was waiting at home anxiously expecting his son's return, there came a messenger announcing the fate that had befallen him. Takagi, bent on revenge, immediately seized his sword and started out, and his daughter who would not permit her father to go alone, seized a naginata (curved halberd used by women) and followed him. Together they went to the *Kuchō* to inquire into the particulars of the murder. The *Kuchō*, however, refused to give any information, and when Takagi raised his sword to attack him, he was shot dead with a revolver which the *Kuchō* had in readiness. The girl then attacked the *Kuchō* with her halberd, and was on the point of overpowering him, when a member of the private school named Murata rushed in and interfered, giving the *Kuchō* an opportunity of escaping. Teru then turned on Murata and compelled him to seek safety by flight. The *Kuchō* then returned with five members of the School Party. Teru still defended herself, but by force of numbers was at last seized and bound. She was then taken to the Private School and tortured, but refusing to make any explanation, she was put in prison. She managed, however, to make her escape, believing that at some future time she could accomplish her revenge, and is still living in the Ken.

Among the many industries of Japan is the manufacture of bird-line; and an interesting account is given in Consul Anley's commercial report on Osaka and Hiogo for the past year of the various uses to which this article is put by the Japanese. It is, of course, principally employed for the snaring of birds and animals. By its means animals as large as monkeys are caught. When once they get the stuff on their paws they soon cover themselves with it, and so exhaust themselves in trying to get rid of it that they fall an easy prey. Birds also as large as ducks are taken by an ingenious process. The young shoots of the fugi (*Wisteria*), which are strong, light, and flexible, are knotted together, smeared with bird-lime, and floated out to sea. Numerous wild fowl are bagged by this means, and the tackle will serve any number of times till the bird-line dries. Small birds are caught in various ways—some by means of a decoy bird concealed near a patch of tempting food, which is plentifully planted with little splinters of bamboo like large needles, the upper half of which is covered with lime. Others are caught while on trees by means of a long and slender bamboo, the top of which is anointed with the lime and then stealthily thrust against their feathers. Rats are easily caught by spreading a small quantity on a piece of board or paper, and placing it near their holes. It is spread upon a bamboo leaf, and used during the summer for catching flies or other insects. Flea-traps are made for its service, and occasionally used by the Japanese in bed. This trap looks like a toast-rack, and consists of a piece of board smeared on the upper surface with the lime surrounded by semi-circles of bamboo to keep the baiting off the board. Bird-line is also used by the Japanese for medicinal purposes, and is considered one of the best cures for wounds, cuts, &c. Japan is the only country where it is regularly manufactured on a large scale, the principal town from which it is made being a dark evergreen growing on the mountains in the south.

OF INTEREST TO BUYERS OF OIL.—Owing to the long experience of the Devos Manufacturing Co., their extensive facilities, and the magnitude of their business with all parts of the world, the brand of "Devos's Brilliant Oil" has come to have a world-wide reputation. Manufactured always in the same refinery, (the largest of the New York Refineries), in the same manner, and to stand the same tests, this brand of burning oil possesses an uniformity of excellence that recommends it to all buyers and consumers of oil. On this account, many imitations of this well-known brand have been attempted and put upon the market, and it is well for buyers to assure themselves of the genuineness of the burning oil they buy, by seeing in every instance that the word "Devos's" is on the case and on the can.—*Adm.*

Quotations.

HONGKONG, December 29, 1877.

OPIMUM.—New Patna, cash, \$610 credit.
" Old Patna, cash, None credit.
" New Benares, cash, 580 credit.
" Old Benares, cash, None credit.
" New Malwa, cash, 695 credit.
" Allowance, Tael, —
" Old Malwa, cash, — credit, 720 Tael, —
" Allowance, Tael, —

Exchange.

Bank, on demand, ... 8/11
" 30 days' sight, ... 3/11
" 6 months' sight, ... 4/4
Credit, ... 4/4
Documentary, 6 months' sight, ... 4/4
Bombay, demand Rupees, ... 225
Calcutta, demand, ... 225
Shanghai, demand, ... 724
" 30 days' sight, ... 75
Bar Silver, 17, dwts. B., ... 10 %
Sycee, ... 9
Mexicans, ... 1 p. 6. pm.
Gold Loan, ... 26.20
English Sovereigns, ... 5.06
Australian Sovereigns, ... 5.06
Discount, ... 8 a 10

Shares.

Hongkong Bank, 58 % prem.
Union Ins. Society of Canton, \$1,100
China Traders' Ins. Co., \$2,850
Chinese Insurance Co., \$265
Yangtze Ins. Assoc., Tia. 650
North China Ins. Co., Tia. 860
H.K. Fire Ins. Co., \$685
China Fire Ins. Co., \$175
H.K. & W. Dock Co., 4 % dia.
H.K. & M. S. Boat Co., 16 % dia.
Shanghai Steam Navigation, Tia. 26
Hongkong Gas Co., \$75
Hongkong Hotel Co., \$58
Chinese Imperial Loan, \$103.10

Temperature.

(Taken at Messrs Falconer & Co.'s Premises, Queen's Road.)

HONGKONG, December 29, 1877.
BAROMETER—9 a.m. ... 30.208
Do. 1 p.m. ... 30.112
Do. 4 p.m. ... —
THERMOMETER—9 a.m. ... 68
Do. 1 p.m. ... 68
Do. 4 p.m. ... —
Do. (Wet bulb) 9 a.m. ... 68
Do. Do. 1 p.m. ... 65
Do. Do. 4 p.m. ... 66
Do. Maximum over night ... 66
Do. Minimum over night ... 61

Shipping Intelligence.

The following is corrected from the latest London and Colonial Papers:—

VESSELS TO ARRIVE.

AT HONGKONG.

When left.	Name.	From.	Remarks.
May			
10, David,		Antwerp	
12, Othando,		Cardiff	
18, Alstra,		Melbourne	
June			
18, Henry Lippett,		New York	
July			
2, Northampton,		Baltimore	
10, Niagara,		Cuxhaven	
13, Jessie Jamieson,		Cardiff	
14, Abernethy,		Liverpool	
18, Carl Kitter,		Cardiff	
25, Globe,		Deal	
Aug.			
10, Papa,		Cardiff	
11, North Star,		Cardiff	
11, E. P. Bourverie,		Penarth	
14, Regulus,		Cardiff	
14, Moss Glen,		Penarth	
14, Patria,		Cardiff	
17, John Pettis,		New York	
19, Felix Mendelssohn,		London	
27, Charger,		Liverpool	
28, India,		Hamburg	
Sept.			
1, Vega,		Table Bay	
3, Andras,		Flushing Roads	
4, Humbolt,		New York	
7, Hecla,		Flushing Roads	
8, Gatherer,		Cardiff	
10, River Lagan,		Cardiff	
15, G. F. Muniz,		Newport	
18, Wildwood,		Liverpool	
20, River Lagan,		Cardiff	
21, P. J. Carleton,		Liverpool	
22, Harkaway,		London	
23, Floridia (s.),		Liverpool	
23, Fidelio,		Hamburg	
25, Maria Ravano,		Penarth	
30, Peter,		Cardiff	
Oct.			
2, Anna Barthe,		Cuxhaven	
5, Forest Belle,		Cardiff	
8, Empire,		Newport	
8, Eleanore,		Penarth	
9, Kaiser,		Penarth	
18, Minerva (s.),		Cardiff	
18, Oscar,		Hamburg	
25, Benedicta,		San Francisco	
30, Lodovico,		London	
Nov.			
1, Elizabeth Ostle,		Antwerp	
2, Cadiz (

Portfolio.

THE GARDEN SEAT.

The garden seat was overgrown in spring
With young, sweet flowers swathed in purple
And green;
I saw a little child her toy-book bring,
With pictures of the fays and fairy queen;
She played in wonderment upon the seat,
And laughed, and laughing blossoms o'er her
head;
She sat with daisies round about her feet
Till she was called to supper and to bed.
The seat in summer time was in the shade
Of mingling boughs that swayed unto the
ground,
And flecked the path, and pleasant music made:
The bees were buzzing in the blooms around;
A maiden with a book of love-tales came,
And read a sweet romance, to her all truth;
She closed the book, and whispered some one's
name,
Then went away to meet a favored youth.
When misty autumn came, and currents hung
In heavy, rippling clusters by the wall,
Chill winds came from the meadow-lands and
swung
The colored trees that let their jewels fall:
Upon the seat a married couple stayed,
With just a touch of care in their content;
They watched the leaves that on the dry path
played,
Then arm-in-arm away they slowly went.
When winter came, and all the flowers were lost,
The cold winds shrieked, the trees were black
and bare,
The garden seat was whitened with the frost,
And sparrows hopped in vain for crumbs
there:
An old man came along, with pale cheeks worn,
And sat till night, and then he did not go;
The snow fell with the dark, and in the morn
The old man yet was there—still as the
snow.
—Guy Roslyn.

THE DOUBLE SHADOWS.

Yes; I own I start at shadows;
Listen—I will tell you why
(Life itself is but a taper,
Casting shadows till we die).
Once in Italy, at Florence,
I a radiant girl adored,
When she came, she saw, she conquered;
And by Cupid I was felled.
"Mia cara Mandolina!
Are we not, indeed," I cried,
"All the world to one another?"
Mandolina smiled and sighed.
Earth was Eden—she an angel—
I a sinner; I was a fool,
Till one night I saw a fatal
Double shadow on the blind.
"Fire and fury! Double shadows
On their wings have borne me'er
To my knowledge have been cast by
Ladies virtuous as fair.
"False and fickle Mandolina!
Fare thee well for evermore,
Vengeance!" shrieked I, "vengeance, ven-
geance!"
And I thundered at the door.
This event occurred next morning—
Mandolina starting ast,
Start-amazed, as out I stumbled,
Kicking mad without a hat.
Six weeks after I'd a letter,
On its road six weeks delayed,
With a dozen re-directions,
From the lost one. And it said—
"Foolish, wicked, cruel Albert!
Bene, suspicious doubt resign,
Double lights through double shadows—
Mandolina, ever thine!"
"Heavens, what an ass!" I muttered,
"Not before to think of that."
And again I rushed excited
To the rail without my hat.
"Mandolina, Mandolina!"
Rushing to her house I cried.
"Pardon, dearest A," she answered,
"I'm the Russian Consul's bride."

GRAINS OF GOLD.

PHYSIO, for the most part, is nothing
else but the substitute of exercise and
temperance.—*Addison*.
IMITATE time; it destroys everything
slowly; it undermines, it wears away, it
detaches, it does not wrench.—*Joubert*.
REPUTATION is a most idle and most
false imposition, oft got without merit,
and lost without deserving.—*Shakespeare*.
THERE never did and never will exist
anything permanently noble and excel-
lent in a character which was a
stranger to the exercise of resolute
self-denial.—*Walter Scott*.
WE are ruined, not by what we really
want, but by what we think we do;
therefore, never go abroad in search of
your wants—if they be real wants they
will come home in search of you, for he
that buys what he does not want will
soon want what he cannot buy.—*Colton*.
You had better sail boldly on in
almost any direction than drift without
any direction at all. You had better
sail in the maddest gale that ever
troubled your sea of life than lie on the
sea and drift with any wind that chooses
to blow.—*Joaquin Miller*.

TACT.

A little tact often overcomes diffi-
culties which much earnest endeavor
fails to remove. Just as a tiny bolt
withdrawing a gate opens which it would
have taken many strong-armed men to
cast down; and a word rightly spoken,
though in itself a thing little enough,
does that which volumes would not
accomplish at another time. Tact is in
no sense difficult of attainment; it needs,
however, that its pupils should dis-
possess themselves of any self-opinionated
mannerisms, which make them contemptible
and objectionable to others. If persons
will persist in carrying with them an
unusually self-consciousness, a determina-
tion to be heard by everyone, and to be
believed in by everyone, and to lord it
over everyone, they will soon be con-
signed to the limbo of unprepossessing and
unpopular people, who forget that the
outside world contains wiser and better
people than themselves. Tact is quick
to learn, quick to discern when it ought
to be silent, as well as when it ought to
speak. In this sense it is consistent
with true humility, and with a wise
recognition of individual imperfection.
The victories of several of the greatest
generals in history have been achieved
by the sense of knowing when they were
for the time, beaten, and having the tact
to retreat for the hour, and gather up
their broken forces, rather than risk all
upon a last struggle with superior

strength; and some of the most suc-
cessful statesmen have been charac-
terized by a tact which knew how to
speak right words at right seasons,
who possess very slender powers of
oratory indeed. Some there are who
slight tact, because of its seeming lack
of superiority over the endowments of
others. They never like to overcome
difficulties so much by skill as by force.
A victory is nothing to them unless it
be achieved by a hotly-contested battle;
a success loses its honour unless it be the
result of strong competitive forces; but
in reality they are mistaken, for in quiet
skill there is as much manifestation of
power as in hand-to-hand tussles
with our compeers. Some there are who
not only depreciate tact, but positively
despise it. They are, for the most part,
what may be called plain-spoken persons;
and a very offensive class they are. It
is particularly obvious that they bruise
people's feelings without compunction,
and it is equally clear that they have a
particular dislike to being themselves
treated to homilies by other plain-spoken
persons. They are happier as speakers
than hearers! Tact! what do they care
for tact? they have truth to tell, and
isn't it right to tell it? With suchlike
sophisms they smother over the fact that
even truth must be spoken in love, and
that the how and when to speak it are
amongst the most important considera-
tions that can occupy the minds of kind
and thoughtful persons. There is a tact
even in telling the most disagreeable
truths, and that man is little to be envied
who despises a skill which, whilst it
preserves the manliness which dares to
speak the truth, also preserves the gen-
tleness which desires to spare feelings.—
Popular Educator.

PRINCE BISMARCK IN THE
WILHELM-STRASSE.

A century ago, when Berlin was sur-
rounded by walls which continued to
exist until about 1860, the upper portion
of the Wilhelm-strasse was the quarter
of the town chiefly affected by ministers
and diplomats. Bismarck's residence,
lying exactly half-way between the Leip-
ziger and Wilhelm-strasses, is a one-
storied building, devoid of every external
ornament. The frontage is extensive,
and embraces about twelve windows.
The entrance to the house is on the
right-hand side. After having crossed
the large portico, one arrives at a
staircase, symbolically guarded by two
sphinxes' heads. On the ground-floor
are the official bureaux, and upstairs
the private rooms, of the Chancellor. These
apartments, furnished at the beginning
of the century, consisting of a large
dancing-room over the gateway and four
large drawing-rooms, reserved for the
reception of guests and other social pur-
poses, look out upon the street. The
large lofty library or study of the Chan-
cellor is situated at the back, and com-
mands a view of the magnificent garden.
Since Bismarck left intercourse with
foreign diplomatists to Baron Billow,
the Secretary of State, he seldom appears
within the chambers really constituting
the Foreign Office. Private telegraph
wires keep him informed of the course
of affairs, and he issues his instructions
accordingly. Formerly the hours chiefly
devoted to work were in the night. Lately, however, an increase
of his neuralgic pains has warned him
not to turn night into day. Imperative-
ly admonished by his doctors, he no
longer indulges in the heavy drinks—
notably, porter mixed with champagne—
which used to be his favorite beverages.
At his meals, only the lightest and most
digestible dishes make their appearance.
He himself draws up every morning with
his *chef de cuisine* the menu for the day;
and even if ambassadors are waiting in
the antechamber, the cook is received
without delay. At table he notes down
such critical expressions on the dishes as
"trop cuit," "pas tendre," for the instruc-
tion or reproach of his cook. His kitchen
is overwhelmed by his admirers with
special delicacies of the season, and pro-
ductions in which various provinces
excel, such as Westphalian ham, Zauer
or Frankfurt sausages, Strauburg *pâtés*.
A lively and entertaining host, he pos-
sesses the gift, rare in Germans, of
causerie; and whilst in Parliament on
public occasions his speeches are deliver-
ed with manifest effort, he is in private
an easy and unconstrained conversa-
tionalist.

Bismarck leaves Berlin for a spa or
his favorite country seat, Varsin, which
he purchased after the war of 1866. In
the capital he is rarely met beyond the
precincts of the Foreign Office gardens.
His constant companion in his walks is
Sultan, a splendid Danish mastiff, pre-
sented to him by a friend in South
Germany. His growing corpulence—
not, however, disproportionate to his
height—has compelled him to give up
riding. His personal presence is almost
too well known to need description.
Small feet and hands, bald head, lofty
brow, small gray eyes in deep sockets,
almost hidden by bushy eyebrows, and
marital moustache, now nearly white,
which covers his mouth, are the features
chiefly noticeable in the man. He
usually wears uniform—for the most
part that of the 7th Cuirassiers—which
consists either of a white coat, with a
cuisse and a large helmet, or a blue
undress coat, with a yellow collar. He
only appears at Court on state occasions,
alleging, as excuse for his absence, the
explanation is that among the leading
personages in the *entourage* of his
Majesty are several of his bitterest
personal and political foes. More than
once he has almost come to blows with
some of his fellow-couriers in the im-
perial antechamber, and an altercation

three years ago with Count Nesselrode,
the Lord High Chamberlain of the
Empress, a staunch Catholic, was fol-
lowed by mutual challenges to a duel,
which the interference of the Emperor
alone prevented.

Educated at Göttingen, the great
Chancellor frequently dwells in conver-
sation on his university days, when no
fun was too wild for his taste, and no
excesses too severe a tax on his powers.
The commencement of his official life
was not very promising, for his earlier
days were enlivened by a variety of
characteristic exploits. When looking
after the paternal estates at Knipphof,
in Pomerania, his reckless behavior hor-
rified his more sober acquaintances. But
the revels of "Madcap Bismarck" were
not debauches. On his father's death
he inherited a smaller sum than had
been expected, and he again sought
Government employment. At this time
he commenced paying his addresses to a
daughter of the wealthy Herr von Putt-
kammer at Reinfield, in Pomerania. His
suit was rejected by the father, an active
member of the Lutheran Church, who at
first hesitated to intrust for life his child
to such a lover. On the wedding tour,
passed in Italy, Bismarck accidentally met
in Venice his Sovereign, the late Freder-
ick William IV., with whom he entered
into an animated conversation on the
troubled state of political affairs in
Germany. He declared himself, and he
proved, a loyal and ardent monarchist,
and was selected to represent the Prus-
sian Government in the German Diet,
where, owing to the weak policy hitherto
observed by Prussia, Austria had indis-
putably gained the upper hand. The
expectations which shrewd judges had
formed of him were fully realised. Al-
ready his visit to Count Rechberg, the
Austrian Minister and President of the
Diet, manifested his intended mode of
proceeding. On Rechberg, who was
then just engaged, begging him to wait
a minute, he sat himself down on the
sofa and quietly lit a cigar. Such were
the practical and unmistakable argu-
ments by which he succeeded in impres-
sioning his colleagues, the representatives
of the other federal States, of the equality
of Prussia with Austria.—*The World*.

SHARK AND ALLIGATOR FIGHT.

A Florida correspondent of the New-
York *Sun* says: Heavy eastern gales,
coinciding with the action of the Gulf
Stream, sometimes shut the inlet. Shoals
of black-bass left the fresh-water stream
and appeared at Jupiter. Solid acres of
salt-water fishes piled themselves into
the light of the inlet, and fought for the
sea-water that oozed through the sand at
high tide. The alligators of the Ever-
glades got wind of what was going on.
They came down the Allouachatchie and
Lake Worth Creek in scores, and attack-
ed the fish dammed up in the high.
The slaughter was astonishing. The
water turned to blood and was carpeted
with dead fish. The alligators were
reinforced until their number was esti-
mated at five hundred. They gorged
themselves with fish, and dozed away for
days on the hot sand beneath the scor-
ching rays of the sun. The beach was
black with their mailed bodies. At
night their muttered thunder fairly shook
the foundations of the lighthouse. One
day a north wind arose. It gathered in
strength day by day, until its fury was
that of a gale. It began to back up the
water in the inlet. Rain fell, and the
water increased in depth. The wind
shifted to the north-west. A high neap
tide followed. As it began to fall a
thread of fresh water found its way over
the sandy barrier. Within twenty
minutes the dam was burst, and the
pent-up waters were roaring and rushing
to the sea. The army of alligators was
caught in the flood and carried outside.
A terrific fight ensued. The neap-tide
had brought hundreds of enormous sharks
to the coast. They scented the fresh
water and made for the inlet. Frantic
after their enforced fasting during the
storm they attacked the alligators. The
noise of the combat was heard above the
roar of the ocean. A son of Judge
Paine, of Fort Capron, who was an eye-
witness of the scene, tells me that he saw
sharks and alligators rise on the crest of
the waves and fight like dogs. Many
of the killed floated belly upward, and
were afterwards washed ashore by the waves.
For days the bodies drifted to the beach.
The dead alligators had lost their heads
and tails. The sharks in some cases
were bitten into two pieces. The current
of the gulf stream strewn the shore as
far north as Cape Malabar with their
carcasses. Clouds of buzzards, and even
the Bahama vultures, were drawn
to the beach by the offal. Mr Paine
fancies that the sharks were too active
for the alligators, but others say that the
percentage of bodies on the beach indicated
that the weight of metal was in favor of
the iron-clad reptiles.

A SMALL BOY AT SCHOOL.

Nello did what he was told to do at
school; but he was very slow about it,
being so little, and so unused to work-
ing for which he was punished; and he could
not learn his lessons for brooding over
his troubles, and wondering when they
would come, or what they could mean;
and naturally he was punished for that
too. The big boys hustled him about;
they played him a hundred tricks; they
laughed at his timid, baby-washings, his
carefulness, the good order to which he
had been trained. To toss everything
about to do everything loudly and
noisily, and carelessly, was the religion
of Mr Swan's boys, as everything that
was the reverse of this had been the
religion in which Nello was trained.

Poor little boy! his life was as full of
care as if he had been fifty. He was
sent here and there on a hundred er-
rands; he had impositions which he could
not write, and lessons which he could
not learn; and not least, perhaps, meals
which he could not eat; and out-of-door
tasks quite unsuitable for him, and which
he could not perform. He was for ever
trotting after something he ought to have
done. He grew dirty, neglected, un-
kempt, miserable. He could not clean
his own boots, which was one thing re-
quired of him; but plastered himself all
over with mysterious blacking, in a vain
attempt to fulfil this task. He who had
scarcely dressed himself till now, scarcely
brushed his own hair. He kept up a
struggle against all these labours, which
were more cruel than those of Hercules,
as long as he had the hope within him
that somebody must come to deliver him;
for with a childish jump at what he
wished, he had believed that some one
might come "to-morrow," when he sent,
or thought he sent, his letter away.
The to-morrow pushed itself on and on,
hope getting fainter, and misery stronger,
yet still seemed to gleam upon him like
a possibility still. "Oh, pray God send
Mary!" he said, every night and morn-
ing. When a week was over, he added
a more urgent cry. "Oh, pray God send
some one, only some one! Oh, pray God
take me home!" the child cried. He
repeated one night aloud, in the exhaus-
tion of his disappointment, with an
irrepressible moaning and crying, "Oh,
pray God take me home!" He was very
tired, poor little boy; he was half
wrapped in his little bit of curtain, to
hide him as he said his prayers, and he
had fallen half asleep while he said them,
and was struggling with drowsiness, and
duty, and a hope which, though now
falling more and more into despondency,
still gave pertinacity to his prayer. He
was anxious, very anxious to press this
petition on God's notice. Repetition,
is not that the simplest primitive neces-
sity of earnest supplication? Perhaps
God might not take any notice the first
time, but he might the next. "Oh, take
me home! Oh, pray God take me
home!" God too, like Mary and the
rest, seemed to pay no attention; but
God did not require written letters or
directions in a legible hand: He could
be approached more easily. So Nello
repeated and repeated, half asleep, yet
with his little heart full of trouble, and
all his cares awake, this appeal to the
only One who could help him, "Oh,
pray God, pray God take me home!"—
Macmillan's Magazine.

THE SUBTLE TACK-HAMMER.

Nothing is more thoroughly understood
by the managers and victims of house-
cleaning than that a tack-hammer cannot
be trusted alone for a single moment. The
first question that is asked by the unhappy
husband who, on his return from business,
is informed by his wife that he is expected
to put down the parlor carpet before he
goes to bed, is, "Where is the tack-ham-
mer?" This question is uniformly the
signal for the beginning of an argument
which only too often ends in marital mi-
sery. The wife asserts that she left the
tack-hammer on the piano, but the husband
terms to the inability of man to see any-
thing that is "right before their very
eyes," while he retorts by wishing that
women could rid themselves of the habit
of hiding everything. A prolonged and
exhaustive search finally leads to the dis-
covery of the tack-hammer tightly squeezed
in between the clock and the wall, where
there is no possible doubt that it had
voluntarily concealed itself. How it made
the journey from the piano to the clock
can only be surmised, for there is no animal
in the stealth and secrecy of its
movements begins to equal the apparently
dull and inert tack-hammer. Scientific
persons in all ages have studied with great
interest the habits of the tack-hammer.
Sir Isaac Newton remarked that when he
tried to comprehend the mental processes,
and catalogue the peculiarities of the tack-
hammer, he felt as if he were standing on
the shore of a vast ocean and picking up
handfuls of the myriad tacks strewn along
the strand; and Mr. Tupper has beauti-
fully said, in his "Proverbial Philosophy":
"The tack-hammer is small and subtle;
but the stars are innumerable and bright,"
thus recognising in the most unequivocal
way one of the distinguishing traits of the
tack-hammer. Especial interest, however,
attaches to the experiments made by Pro-
fessor Huxley, since they illustrate with
peculiar fulness the extraordinary timidity
and the wonderful skill in concealment
which distinguish the tack-hammer from
other hammers larger in size, but vastly
inferior in other respects. These experi-
ments demonstrated first, that the tack-
hammer, when left on the floor in the
three-pair front bed-room, would convey
itself into the laboratory, and hide under a
pile of heavy scientific books; secondly,
that when a tack-hammer is shut up
at night in a dark closet, it is able to escape
and to conceal itself for three entire days
in Professor Huxley's breast pocket; and
thirdly, that when extricated from the
pocket, and delivered into the custody of
Mrs. Huxley, it can elude that lady's vigi-
lance, and not only secretly accompany the
professor to his lecture-room, but remain
hidden for weeks at a time under a spare
handkerchief or between the leaves of a
copy of Milton's poems. Inasmuch as
Prof. Huxley stoutly affirms that in none
of these instances was he privy to the escape
or concealment of the tack-hammer, it
follows that he has fully demonstrated its
apparently untamable disposition. He
need not, however, abandon all hope that
the tack-hammer can be tamed. Many
housewives are ready to testify that they
have completely subdued the wildness of
the common domestic seissors by chaining
its handles. The same system might very
probably be found efficacious with the
tack-hammer. Were a heavy weight to be
fastened to its handle by a stout chain, it
would be extremely difficult for the tack-
hammer to glide noiselessly across the floor
in search of a hiding-place. At all events,
the experiment is worth trying, for, as the
late Mr. Buckle ably showed in his tables of
social statistics, at least 5 per cent. of
modern divorce suits can be traced to

domestic dissensions arising from discus-
sions as to the possible lair of an escaped
tack-hammer.—*New York Times*.

BREACH OF PROMISE.

The peculiarly British institution, the
action for breach of promise of marriage,
appears to be in a highly flourishing con-
dition in the present enlightened age, not-
withstanding the ridicule of satirists and
the frequently expressed disapproval of all
right-minded people. Actions of this de-
scription are no longer of comparatively
rare occurrence, but are to be met with at
every assize throughout the length and
breadth of England, until we have become
maudlin with newspaper reports of the
love-passages of other people, and find them
extremely wearisome and uninteresting
reading.

It must be admitted, that the character-
istics of a breach of promise case are not
calculated to present human nature from a
favourable aspect. On the one hand, we
have some petty tradesman or small farmer,
who is guilty of that fickleness which is
allotted to be the peculiar failing of man-
kind, and, on the other, we see the degrading
spectacle of a woman, so totally devoid
of the natural delicacy of her sex that she
does not shrink from publishing her wrongs
to the world, in order to obtain a pecuniary
satisfaction for her outraged feelings. It is,
perhaps, owing to the fact, that in such
cases there is little sympathy due to either
party, that the proceedings in an action for
breach of promise are invariably marked
by levity and jocoseness, strangely at
variance with the dignified manner in which
the business of our Law Courts is usually
conducted.

It is difficult to understand the force of
the arguments which are put forward in
support of this much-abused procedure.
There are, of course, extreme cases, in
which the plaintiff has been wronged in a
manner which entitles her to heavy com-
pensation; but in nine cases out of ten the
injury which the lady has suffered is neither
deep nor lasting. From a legal point of view,
when a contract is broken by either of the
contracting parties, the person aggrieved
has clearly a right to recover compensation
to the extent of the damage he or she has
sustained; but, instead of taking, as in
other cases, the pecuniary loss actually
suffered as a basis for assessing the damages
to be awarded, the jury, in a breach of
promise case, are in the habit of mulcting
the defendant in such a sum as amounts to
nothing more or less than a severe fine.

It may, perhaps, be urged in defence of
ladies who take legal proceedings against
their former swains, that they are more
frequently influenced by the wishes of their
relatives than by their own inclinations.
Let us hope, for the sake of the sex which
they unworthily represent, that this allega-
tion is correct; but, even if it be so, they
are by no means exonerated from blame, for
it is quite clear that no action can proceed
unless the plaintiff is a consenting party.
It is to be feared, however, that the plain-
tiff in a breach of promise case is too often
prompted by revenge and spite of the
meanest and sordid nature; and it is
certainly questionable whether such senti-
ments are deserving of sympathy and
encouragement. But, unfortunately, the
excessive damages which are awarded by
juries in this class of action offer a strong
inducement to disappointed ladies to prose-
cute these proceedings; and since it is quite
clear that those who avail themselves of
such a remedy are little likely to feel very
deeply the loss they have sustained, it
follows that the law is employed as a mere
speculative money-making machine; an
abuse which is much to be deprecated, and
ought not to be permitted.

It would be mere waste of time, however,
to advocate the abolition of the action for
breach of promise of marriage, not only
because it is firmly established, but because,
since an engagement to marry does not
differ in the eye of the law from any other
kind of contract, it would be impossible to
do away with it. But we venture to point
out what appears to be the only remedy
which is available to check the increasing
popularity of this procedure, and that is,
the substitution of a special jury in lieu of
a common jury in all cases of this description.
The butcher, the baker, and the candi-
stick maker, of whom the common jury is
chiefly composed, are no doubt very honest
and worthy people, and, in matters of
business, shrewd and sensible enough; but
they are unable to realise the delicate
feelings which would restrain a true-hearted
woman from appearing before them under
such circumstances, and are easily carried
away by the mock heroic and clatrap
eloquence of the plaintiff's counsel. A
special jury, on the other hand, being more
highly educated, and better fitted by birth
and position to form an unbiased opinion
in cases which involve somewhat delicate
and fine considerations, would take a calmer
and more logical view of the position
of the plaintiff, with the result that they
would probably confine themselves to
estimating the pecuniary value of the lady's
disappointed hopes, without attaching
undue weight to the sentimental side of the
question. If once this system were uni-
versally adopted, and the plaintiff were
less sure of obtaining substantial damages
than she is at present, we have no hesita-
tion in saying, that the popularity of
actions for breach of promise of marriage
would receive an effectual check.

THE INDIAN BASKET TRICK.

In the November *Harper's* Olive Logan,
in an article on Houdini, the juggler, tells
how he performed the famous Indian basket
trick.
This trick was performed with the aid of
looking-glasses inserted between the table
legs—contrivance now commonly used in
pantomimes and other show pieces upon
the stage. But it was a new thing then, and
the scene was remarkably well played by
Houdini and the child. As soon as the boy
got in the basket he opened a trap-door in
the bottom of it, which was placed over a
corresponding opening in the table. Hidden
by the looking-glass, he crouched below
between the table legs, and shrieked and
sobbed until the proper moment came for
him to descend through a trap in the stage,
and so pass around to the box in the front
of the theatre. A sponge full of a red
liquid was placed at a certain spot inside
the basket, and the sword, passing through
this, seemed to be dripping with blood. It
was imperative that the juggler should not
pass in front of the table else his legs would
have been reflected there, and that would
have disclosed the entire secret. Houdini
became disfigured with this trick, and made
many improvements in it, which the jugglers
of our day have still further perfected. It
is palpable that this cannot be the way in

which Indian jugglers perform the trick in
the market places or other public squares in
broad daylight. They have no looking-
glass table, no traps through the earth.

Houdini's theory concerning them was that
their basket had an opening in it either
at its front or its back, and that, while
buckling and strapping down the cover, with
the knee lifted up and pressed on the basket
as if to tighten the leather strap more
securely, the child crept out under the bent
knee, and hid beneath the voluminous robes
of the juggler. Then, while the sword is
piercing the basket, and the child's sobs are
a most heart-rending, the crowd gathers in a
compact mass about it, and into the crowd
the child escapes without being seen, and
runs away. At the proper moment he comes
running back as if from a distance, and of
course the astonishment of the crowd is
unparalleled, for the basket has in the
meantime been opened and shown to be
empty.

THE PENGE CASE.

The following graphic description of the
last scene in Court of the Penge case is
given by the *Daily Telegraph*.—All who are
familiar with the procedure of criminal
courts, know the buzz of relief that occurs
after the suspension of a long sitting.
There is a chattering in the court, the
members of the Bar stretch themselves,
and talk to their friends, and those curious
people who make it a point to attend at
every cause célèbre have an opportunity of
airing their strangely-acquired information.
So the time wears away until the clock
strikes eleven. Opinions are divided, and
some say that the jury will not be back
until midnight. But at five minutes past
eleven young Mr. Poland, of the Treasury,
bustles into court, and instinctively every
one feels that the time has arrived and
that the jury are coming back. A buzz of
expectancy passes along the bar benches.
Seats are resumed. The Judge is fetched
into court. "Silence," is emphatically
proclaimed, and once more the two brothers
and the two sisters are in the front row
of dock. There is no sitting, they must
all stand, and hear the verdict pro-
nounced upon them. Louis, still shy, pale,
looks as if he were in a stupor, and gazes
unmoved. Patrick trembles like a leaf,
as he has done on every day of the
trial, looks behind him pitifully and plead-
ingly for his wife. Once she is by his
side he seems more consoled. The two
women, half stooping and shrinking from
the look of the Court and the eyes of the
women round and about them at every
corner, stand by the side of the men. The
dock is now full. The warden has been
doubled and trebled, and it requires all the
kindly assistance of Mr. Smith, the Gov-
ernor, and all the attention of every one
concerned, to prevent Patrick and his wife
from falling. It is a dreadful moment, and
the suspense is painful. Once again the
names of the jurymen are called over, and
each one answers. Then, after another
"Silence!" the Clerk of the Arraigns
speaks: How say you gentlemen, is Louis
Stanton guilty of the murder with which
he stands charged? "The Foreman's voice
trembles. "Guilty." Is Patrick Stanton
guilty of the murder with which he stands
charged? "Guilty." Is Elizabeth Stanton
guilty of the murder with which she
stands charged? "Guilty." There is a
shudder at this announcement. "Is
Alice Rhodes guilty of the murder with
which she stands charged?" "Guilty." At
the last sentence there is an exclamation
of "Oh!" a sudden, sharp murmur
of pity which runs instantly round the
court. All eyes are fixed on the miserable
creatures in the dock. That murmur of
commiseration grows so loud that the re-
commendation to mercy of the women is
scarcely heard. And now Alice Rhodes has
fainted in the dock. With a piteous moan
she has fallen into the arms of the atten-
dants, and has been gently placed on a
chair. "I will, I will," murmurs Mrs. Pat-
rick Stanton to her husband. He has
implored her for his sake to be firm, and
she is acting bravely. Still Louis Stanton
gazes upon the Court as if in a dream.
Still Patrick Stanton positively shivers.
How long will that moaning woman lie
up? Her sister is moaning in a fainting fit,
and smelling salts are being administered;
and whilst the old-fashioned cry of the
usher, "Oyez, oyez, oyez," asks why sen-
tence of death should not be pronounced,
and the Judge sternly comments on the
immorality of the offence, the two brothers
and the sisters still stand at the bar. Pat-
rick Stanton grasps his wife's hand; he
presses it intensely and affectionately.
Again she murmurs she will be firm, but
at the mention of death her strength succumbs,
and, with one pitiful cry, "O give me a
chair," she sinks by the side of her sister in
a swoon. And now the two brothers are
left standing to hear the sentence of death
pronounced. Before the dreadful words
are over, Patrick, remembering, no doubt,
their old affection, has slipped his hand into
his brother's as much as to say that if
"they were not lovely and pleasant in their
lives," still that in "death they are not
divided," but Louis Stanton, pale as hewn
marble, neither trembles nor falters, nor
looks at his brother, nor turns towards poor
Alice Rhodes as she lies fainting in the
corner, but simply gazes across the crowded
court into vacancy. As we look amidst
the huddled crowd of warden, fainting
women, and the pale man condemned to
death, they are asked if they have anything
to say against the on-coming execution.
Mr. Sydney Smith, the Governor of the
gaol, answers for the woman No; but Alice
Rhodes recovered for an instant answers
for herself, "Only that I am innocent,"
Louis and Patrick Stanton say nothing,
but when the confusion has subsided go
down the sad steps after the removal of
the prostrate sisters. So ends the drama
thus brought to a tragic conclusion, and as
the audience file out, appalled at the scene
just witnessed, one of the leading counsel—
accustomed, no doubt, to sentences of death
—asks my Lord when he will take the first
case in the morning.

"Blessed be, Sept. 1869.—Gentlemen, I
feel it a duty I owe to you to express my
gratitude for the great benefit I have de-
rived by taking 'Norton's Camomile Pills.'
I applied to your agent Mr. Bell, Berkeley,
for the above-named Pills, for wind in the
stomach, from which I suffered excruciat-
ing pain for a length of time, having tried
nearly every remedy prescribed, but with-
out deriving any benefit at all. After
taking two bottles of your valuable Pills, I
was quite restored to my usual state of
health. Please give this publicity for the
benefit of those who may be afflicted.
—I am, Sir, yours truly, Henry Aspinwall.
—To the Proprietors of Norton's Camo-
mille Pills."—1869/70.

The Chinese gunboat *Chien Jui* came out of Kowloon Docks to-day (where she has been undergoing repairs), and went on a trial trip. The engines worked very satisfactorily, and the vessel attained an average speed of 10½ knots per hour, against wind and tide.

We are authorized to state that His Excellency the Governor will be happy to receive the Consular Body, the Heads of Departments, and any other Gentlemen who may desire to call at Government House on New Year's Day, from half-past two to four o'clock.

We have received too late for publication a communication signed "1878," suggesting that the surplus good things in our larders be devoted towards providing a bumper dinner at the City Hall to the Soldiers and Sailors in port. Taking into account the approaching departure of the 26th Regiment, the number of the men-of-war in harbour, and the festive season of the year, we should be glad to see the suggestion acted upon, and commend it to the consideration of the community.

Rice is getting scarcer every day, and is rising in price proportionately. Those who can afford it have laid in a stock in anticipation of exhausted prices. The unreasonably warm temperature at this time of the year is looked upon with apprehension, as it is feared that the delayed cold weather may break in at a time when the young rice plants are shooting above ground.

In the Supreme Court to-day it was arranged that the trial of the *Yesso* case by Special Sessions will take place some time next week. The Attorney General also mentioned that another case would probably have to be tried also at an early date, that of Inspector Whitehead's, as one of the witnesses, a Sergeant, will have to leave by H.M.S. *Tamar*. The Chief Justice said he would receive the application in chambers.

The str. *Douglas*, which left for the Coast to-day, was shipped an Iron Cattle Sugar mill for the Swatow district, the first mill of British manufacture which, so far as we know, has ever been introduced into China. It was made and sent out by the well-known makers of sugar machinery, Messrs W. & A. McOnie & Co. of Glasgow, to try and convince the Chinese planters of its superiority over the primitive wooden mills hitherto used by them. The mill was in charge of the manager of the Sugar Refinery at East Point, the agent of Messrs McOnie & Co., and it is to be worked by Chao-tao soon of Cheong-hoi near Swatow.

In the Supreme Court to-day, the Attorney General made an *ex parte* motion for an order nisi calling upon the defendants, in the case of *Wai Kioing v. Lee Sing and another*, to show cause why the verdict for the defendant should not be set aside and be entered for the plaintiff; or why a new trial should not be granted. Their Lordships granted the order nisi in accordance with the terms of the notice of motion. In *Hernheim v. Forbes* the Attorney General also moved for an order to have the point of law reserved, as to whether the varying of a contract would not do away with the penalty imposed thereon, argued on a day to be fixed. Their Lordships also granted the motion. Hearing of the above suits will be given during the latter end of this week.

From our Police Reports it will be seen that alarms of burglars on the higher levels of the town still continue. As the servants belonging to the houses in the neighbourhood of the upper terraces appear to be the principal sufferers on this occasion, it may be unfair to attribute the success of the thieves to the carelessness of domestics. But it is so in nine cases out of ten. It might be suggested that the Police authorities should place a few extra guardians on the upper roads at present—until, say, the Chinese New Year. If, as it is asserted, it be true that the rascals are armed, some satisfactory shot-marks may in time prove effectual in putting a stop to this objectionable cause of insecurity.

The barque *Ribstone* has (says the *Straits Times*) been got off the Bril Reef, and was brought into harbour yesterday in tow of the steamer *Rosa*. A lump sum of £500, we understand, was the sum agreed to be paid for getting her off. The vessel has about 10,000 cases of kerosene on board, not the least damaged, besides other cargo uninjured.

The following passengers have been booked to China:—

Per P. & O. steamer *Ceylon*, from Brindisi, Dec. 10.—To Hongkong: Mr. T. Pate. Per P. & O. steamer *Khedive*, from Southampton, Dec. 13.—To Shanghai: Mr. A. G. Angier. Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Sindh*, from Marseilles, Dec. 2.—To Shanghai: Mr. Paul Levy. To Hongkong: Mr. W. Wotton. Messrs. Flieger, Mr. E. Edwards, Mr. R. A. Lane. Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Yang Tze*, from Marseilles, Dec. 16.—To Hongkong: Major and Mrs. Brodigan, Mrs. Lord,

Per steamer *Cypreus*, from London, Nov. 16.—To Shanghai: Rev. R. R. Palmer, Rev. T. H. and Mrs. Taylor. Per steamer *Scotia* (Holt's line), from Liverpool, Nov. 20.—To Shanghai: Mrs. Orwin.

WE (*Shanghai Courier*) hear that a private telegram has been received to the effect that Mr. J. C. Myers has been reinstated in his position as United States Consul-General at Shanghai. We learn also that General Julius Stahl, formerly Consul at Yokohama, has been appointed United States Vice-Consul-General here.

At the United States Consulate-General, to-day (26th Dec.) before the Hon. G. Wiley Wells, Consul-General, the case of Kate Jessup v. Gertrude Jamieson was heard. Plaintiff claimed \$300 on a promissory note for board, etc. A set-off of a portion of the amount was pleaded; and Mr. Wells, after hearing the evidence, gave judgment for \$225; adding that, in the future, no claims of a nature to encourage prostitution would be recognised by the Court.

WE (*N. C. D. News*) understand that an agreement has been come to between the "China Navigation" and "China Merchants" Steamship Companies, though the terms have not yet become public. We may state, however, that the details given in Saturday evening's *Courier* are incorrect.

(*L. and C. Telegraph*, Nov. 16th.)

The P. and O. Company's steamer *Hindostan* was despatched from Southampton yesterday with the heavy portion of the next outward mail. She takes \$453,329 in specie, including £25,000 in silver for Shanghai, £22,210 in silver for Hongkong, and £110 in gold for Galle.

Missing Ship.—It is officially announced at Lloyd's that the *Bagley*, Captain Nicol, sailed from Nagasaki for Shanghai, with coals, on July 11 last, and was seen during a heavy typhoon which occurred between July 12 and 14, but has not since been heard of.

Mr. Robert Thompson, junior, has launched from his shipbuilding-yard at Southwick, on the Wear, an iron sailing barque, built to the order of Mr. Peter Ireland, of Liverpool. The following are her principal dimensions:—Length, 214½ feet; breadth, 34 feet 6 inches; depth of hold, 21 feet 6 inches. She is 1,070 tons gross register, and has been built under special survey for Lloyd's 100 A class. The vessel is fitted with all the latest improvements, and is intended for the China trade. She has been named the *Lizzie Bell*.

The *Foxhound*, new composite gunboat, has been commissioned at Devonport by Lieutenant-Commander W. H. Nowell for service on the China station.

At the meeting of the Eastern Extension Australasian and China Telegraph Company yesterday, the chairman, Mr. Pender, M.P., in moving the adoption of the report, stated that the interruption of the cable with Port Darwin had caused so much excitement in the colonies that it was now hoped negotiations for duplicating the line to Australia at the cost of the Colonial Government would be completed. One of the Company's members would probably proceed to Australia to bring matters to a conclusion. It was in the present day most important that all telegraph lines should be duplicated, so that they might be entirely relied upon.

The Rev. E. Reeves Palmer, M.A., has resigned the pastorate of the Congregational Church at Theddington, near Rugby, having accepted the charge of the Union Chapel, Shanghai, for which place he will leave by the steamer *Cypreus*. By the same vessel the directors of the London Missionary Society are sending out the Rev. Thomas Taylor, B.A., and Mrs. Taylor as missionaries of the Society. They are destined, with others, to commence missionary labour in the province of Szechuen. The Society are negotiating for a minister for the chapel at Hong Kong.

We understand that Mr. Forrest, Acting Consul at Swatow, will succeed Mr. Morgan at Tientsin, who comes home on leave. Mr. Hillier returns to China by this mail, and Mr. Stenoch leaves early next month, and will probably take charge of the Consulate at Pakhoi. Mr. Middleton has definitely resigned his appointment in the service. We are glad to hear that Mr. Harvey's health has much improved since his arrival in England. The full scheme for the China and Japan Consular Service is, we believe, before the Treasury for approval. Pending this, the notice for a further batch of Student Interpreters has not been issued.

A series of lectures the object of which is to advocate a more humane and enlightened policy towards less civilised nations is to be delivered at the Vestry Hall, King's-road, Chelsea. Professor Sheldon Ames will lecture on British Commercial Wars with China; Mr. F. W. Chesson on Chinese Emigration; and Mr. B. Stuart Lane, Secretary to the Japanese Legation, on our relations with Japan.

At the Conference on the Reform and Codification of International Law, which was lately held at Antwerp under the presidency of Lord O'Hagan, a report was presented on the intercourse of Christian with non-Christian races. It is stated that Kuo Ta-jen, the Chinese Ambassador, has had this report translated into Chinese for the information of his Government.

(*L. & C. Express*, Nov. 23rd.)

Latest Mail Advice.—Yokohama (via San Fran.) Oct. 13, Shanghai 6, Foochow 4, Hong Kong 11. The P. and O. mail, with the advices dated as above, from China and the Straits Settlements, reached London, via Brindisi, on the 17th inst, two days early, and the Japan advices were received per Occidental and Oriental Company's steamer *Galle*, via San Francisco, on the 20th inst. The next inward French mail, from Yokohama 9th; Shanghai 12th, Hong Kong 18th, Singapore 25th Oct, left Marseilles this morning. The P. and O. Company's steamer *Hyades*, with the heavy portion of last inward mail, left Gibraltar for Southampton on the 20th inst. The honorary degree of Doctor of Laws has been conferred upon Mr. Charles Darwin by the University of Cambridge.

With reference to the resignation by the Rev. Mr. Lamont of the Ministry of the Union Chapel at Hong Kong, we learn that the question of his successor is now under the consideration of some of its members now in London.

The dividend to be recommended by the directors of the P. and O. Company at the annual meeting on the 4th proximo will be 2½ per cent. for the half-year ended Sept. 30 last, making, with the interim dividend paid in June, 4½ per cent. for the year.

The total payment for the year 1876 was 3½ per cent.

At the Northampton Assizes five men and one woman were sentenced by Mr. Justice Hawkins—the men to twelve years' penal servitude and twenty-five lashes each, and the woman to ten years' penal servitude, for robbery with violence. The Chinese Minister and suite have expressed their intention to visit Messrs. Sutton and Sons' Root Show at Reading to-day. The display is said to surpass all previous shows by the firm. The Queen and the Prince of Wales are amongst the exhibitors, who also include Mr. J. Walter, M.P.

Police Intelligence.

(Before James Russell, Esq.)
Dec. 31, 1877.

A "TRUSTWORTHY" SERVANT.

The Aping, servant to the Hon. C. May, was charged with being absent without leave.

Mr. May sworn stated:—I am First Police Magistrate and reside at Robinson Road. The defendant is my servant and has been so for about 12 months. At about 3 o'clock on Sunday morning there was an alarm of thieves in the vicinity of my house, and in consequence, I went out of the house, and I then enquired if any of my servants were about, and found the defendant was absent. He had no leave, and no pass, and was in the house to my knowledge up to 9 o'clock on the previous night. The defendant could have had leave had he chosen to ask it, and this he very well knew. About six weeks ago I went out to dinner, but returned home unexpectedly about 8 o'clock. The defendant had been left in charge of the house, all the family being away, and on my return I had some difficulty in getting into the house because the defendant and the house-couche had left; the cook was alone in the house, but was asleep, and said he had not been informed of their leaving. I then warned the defendant distinctly that on my repetition of his leaving without permission, I should send him to the Magistrate.

The defendant stated, in defence, that he had gone to sit with a friend next door, at Mr. Lamont's, and fell asleep there.

Li Akit, servant to Mr. Lamont, stated that he knew the defendant and he came to the house on Saturday night. Witness saw him talking to the cook, when there was an alarm of thieves at Mr. May's at 3 o'clock.

Mr. Russell fined the defendant \$3, or 10 days' imprisonment.

STEALING STONE.

Li Ashow and three other stone-cutters, were charged by Mr. Neate with taking stone from the reserved quarry at Pokfulam Road, which they were taking to the garden of Mr. Gutierrez, Robinson Road. As a summons had been granted against the master of the defendants, Mr. Neate applied for a remand. Mr. Russell ordered the defendants to appear on Wednesday, but not in custody.

A BAREFACED ROBBERY.

Un Achiu, a hawker, was sent to three months' hard labour for stealing a string of 1000 cash from a money-changer's stall. The defendant snatched the cash off the stall in broad daylight this morning, and ran away, but he did not succeed in his well-meant effort.

ROBBERY FROM THE PERSON.

James Welsh, a seaman unemployed, and lately second mate of the American schooner *Nimrod*, was charged on remand with stealing a purse containing \$5 from the person of Charles Smith, a coloured seaman. Sergeant Toomey stated that he had made every endeavour to find the missing purse, but as yet his efforts had not proved successful. The defendant reserved his defence, and was committed for trial at the Supreme Court, but admitted to bail in two householders in £175 each.

(Before the Hon. C. May.)

GAMBLING.

Sin Awan and Wong Afung, hawker and coolie respectively, and Li Ayan, a married woman, were charged by Sergeant Toomey (No. 80) with keeping a public gambling house. After hearing a mass of evidence of the usual contradictory nature, Mr. May fined the first two \$200 each, or six months' hard labour, and discharged the third defendant.

DRUNKS AND CHAIRS.

Axel Fredricks, a seaman unemployed, was charged with being drunk and refusing to pay chair-hire. As the defendant had been locked up since Saturday, and the chair-coolies were not in attendance, Mr. May discharged him.

John Jones, an engineer unemployed, was fined 50 cents and to pay 75 cents chair-hire for a similar offence.

ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The P. & O. Co.'s mail steamer *Mirapore*, Captain A. Parish, R.N.R., with the London Mails of the 23rd November, arrived here this morning.

TELEGRAMS.

(*Straits Times Extra.*)

Calcutta, Dec. 5.—On the morning of the 4th inst. the troops at Jamnua returned to their former position, in front of the Bagh without casualty, blowing up the towers and burning the villages of the Jawalkis, in the Jamnua valley. The enemy's loss on the 1st has been ascertained to be greater than was at first supposed, nearly thirty at least having been killed or wounded. On the 3rd inst. the relatives of the Jawalkis, killed at Jamnua, were permitted to remove the bodies. Amongst those killed are some near relatives of the Jawalki leaders, and one of the wounded prisoners is a man of consequence, cousin to the leader Mushki. Captain Hawes, 4th P.I., killed with his own hand the son of a leading man of Jamnua.

Alexandria, Dec. 9.—A severe storm has taken place along the Suez Canal, causing a total interruption of telegraphic and railway communication between Ismailia and Suez.

Twenty-five steamers are delayed near the Bitter Lake.

London, Dec. 9.—The Russian loss up to the 17th November is announced to have been 74,888 men. Mehemmed Pasha has appointed Baker Pasha Commander of the Turkish Division. According to unofficial Turkish accounts, Plevna is empty provisioned and a fresh Russian attack upon it has been repulsed. A Russian official despatch states that the Turks have unsuccessfully attacked the Russian positions at Etropolis in the Balkans, and that the Russians are threatening the Turkish retreat on the Sofia road.

London, Dec. 10.—Suleiman Pasha has established his headquarters at Ahmedli. Bad weather interrupts military operations at Kamari. Russian reinforcements are arriving at Etropolis from Kars. The weather continues showery. Skirmishes are taking place at Batoum.

London, Dec. 10.—The total Russian loss is now given as 74,495 men up to December 6th. Fused Pasha commands at Elena, where his making active military preparations to prevent its recapture. Bad weather has suspended operations in the direction of Tirova.

London, Dec. 11.—Plevna has fallen after severe fighting. On the 9th inst. the garrison surrendered unconditionally. Osman Pasha was wounded. General Melikoff has arrived at Hassankale.

London, Dec. 12.—The number of prisoners taken by the Russians at Plevna was 40,000 men, besides 10,000 sick. The slaughter is described as being very great. It is semi-officially stated that Russia intends to prosecute the war further. The Czar and Prince Gortschakoff will return to St. Petersburg next week.

ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH MAIL.

The M. M. Co.'s steamer *Tigre*, Captain Lormier with the London mails of the 16th November, arrived here this morning.

TELEGRAMS.

(*Straits Times Extra.*)

London, Dec. 8.—Turkish troops made an attack on a Russian force at Rakowitz and obliged it to fall back.

London, Dec. 15.—The Serbian army has received orders to cross the frontier. Prince Milan of Serbia and the staff of the army have proceeded to Alexinatz (ton miles from the frontier).

London, Dec. 18.—The *Globe* publishes a rumour that Parliament will meet on the 17th January, in consequence of the present critical situation of affairs in the East. The proposal of the Porte to the Powers for mediation in order to avoid further bloodshed, has been refused by Germany. The Russian troops have occupied Behrovo and Ahmedli.

London, Dec. 19.—The rumour published by the *Globe* is now confirmed, and Parliament will assemble on the 17th January. The *Standard* states the Ministry will then propose to increase the force of the British army, and other Conservative journals consider, that the support of Russia by Austria and Germany, indicates a real danger to British interests.

London, Dec. 1.—According to a Turkish official despatch, the repulse of Suleiman Pasha's force at Metekcha is admitted. Rauf Pasha is organising a camp of 50,000 men at Adrianople. Ahmed Eyoub Pasha has been appointed commander of the Turkish forces in the Shipka Pass. Ghazi Mukhtar telegraphs that he is able, with the force at his disposal, to defend Etropolis. The British Mediterranean squadron has received orders to winter in Besika Bay.

London, Dec. 2.—The Russians have opened a fourth bridge over the Danube, and are building two more. The Roumanians have occupied Lompanaka from which place the Turks have retreated to Widdin. A despatch from Mehemmed Pasha, dated the 20th ultimo, states that the Russians had unsuccessfully attacked the Turkish positions at Uerkrough, situated beyond Etropolis.

London, Dec. 2.—According to a Russian official despatch, the Turks on the 27th ultimo abandoned Chazambai, near Batoum, which the Russians occupied on the following day, besides capturing the camp. The Italian Ambassador at Constantinople has addressed a protest to the Porte against the stoppage of Italian vessels in the Bosphorus. The Porte has offered ample satisfaction. The condition of the Pope's health has changed for the worse.

Madras, Dec. 2.—We had heavy rain yesterday. The famine operations are rapidly contracting but the distress will not be over for two months when good crops will in all probability be reaped. The only anxiety felt now is as regards Ganjam and the neighbouring districts. There is only one relief camp in Madras. Several tanks are reported to be bursting in Mysore. A large British force is surrounding the Afridis, but the passage of troops has been hindered by the sweeping away of a bridge.

London, Dec. 3.—The latest news from the seat of war in Bulgaria states that after the loss of Provitz and Etropolis the Turks retreated to the Balkans. The defeat of the Russians at Uerkrough, beyond Etropolis, about which Mehemmed Pasha telegraphed on the 29th ultimo, is confirmed. The Russians unsuccessfully attacked the Turkish positions at Kamari, situated south of Staziza.

Madras, Dec. 8, afternoon.—Jamu, the chief stronghold of the Jawalkis, has been taken with a loss of only four wounded. The enemy had, however, 30 to 40 casualties. A considerable force from Fort Mackeson has joined General Keyes.

London, Dec. 4.—The Turkish troops in Orchanie and the adjacent positions are falling back on Sophia.

London, Dec. 6.—President Hayes, in his message to Congress, recommends a tax of ten cents on tea and two cents on coffee. A despatch from Mehemmed Pasha states that on the 3rd inst. the Russians made an unsuccessful attack on the Turkish left wing at Kamari, south of Staziza, but were defeated with great loss and compelled to fall back. Prince Milan of Serbia has made a warlike address to his soldiers. The Turkish Parliament is convoked for the 18th December. Sir Stafford Northcote, speaking yesterday at a Conservative demonstration, repeated the Government's determination to observe a conditional neutrality, and its readiness to mediate on a fitting occasion.

Rome, Dec. 5.—The condition of the Pope is worse and his holiness is not expected to recover.

Cairo, Dec. 15.—The Khedive has decided to send a reinforcement of 6,000 men to the Egyptian contingent serving in Turkey. The Khedive has appointed to the Turkish Foreign Office to designate an Englishman of the highest position as Counsellor to the Khedive. The appointment will not be special. The Foreign Office has not yet sent an answer.

London, Dec. 6.—Latest advices state that the Russians now occupy the entrances to the Balkans in the defiles of Grotto and Staziza.

London, Dec. 6.—The latest despatch from Mehemmed Pasha states that the Turks are advancing, whilst the Russians are retreating before them. Suleiman Pasha telegraphs that he has captured Elena, besides taking many prisoners and much war material, and inflicting a loss of 3,000 men on the enemy.

London, Dec. 6.—The capture of Elena frees the Hainboghaz and Slivno passes from Russian attack. Suleiman Pasha, with a Turkish army corps, is advancing upon Tirova.

London, Dec. 7.—A despatch from Ghazi Ahmed Mukhtar states that there are still three feet of snow at Etropolis, and that a Russian corps of observation is stationed at Devolyun, whilst the remainder of the Russian troops are scattered in the surrounding villages.

According to unofficial Turkish accounts, the Turkish division is close to Tirova. The Turks have occupied Popkoi and Kerosova. Russian reinforcements are hurrying to the relief of the Russian force which was driven from Elena.

Rome, Dec. 7.—The Pope is slightly better.

London, Dec. 8.—The Russians have resumed the bombardment of Kamari. The Russian force which was driven from Elena has been reinforced and is concentrated at Racowitza, where the Turks have made an attack, but were compelled to fall back, following by several battalions of the Russians, who captured Stazitzita, and thus burned the Turkish right wing. The Russian press proposes the following peace conditions:—The independence of the Turkish Principalities, the cession of Anatolia and Kars to Russia, and the free passage of the Dardanelles.

SIR EDMUND HORNBY ON THE RESIDENTS IN HONG KONG.

(To the Editor of the *Spectator*.)

Sir,—In a paragraph in the *Spectator* of last week you draw attention to the action of Mr. Pope Honnessy with reference to the Hong Kong jail, in which you allow an inference to be drawn by the British public, that the foreign residents of Hong Kong look with favour on a system of prison discipline which is cruel and unnecessary towards Chinese prisoners. I am not going to pronounce any opinion on the course pursued by the Government, because, I do not know sufficiently the facts on which he has been, or is acting; but I think you are a little hard upon the colonists. During the twelve years I acted as Her Majesty's Chief Judge for China and Japan I had frequent opportunities, and indeed made it my business, to inquire into the management and discipline of the colonial jail, as until the completion of the jail in Shanghai the prisoners sentenced to be sent to Hong Kong, there to undergo their several terms of imprisonment. It became therefore my duty to look into the discipline of the place in which they were confined, and I did so, always once a year, and frequently more often.

While the jail was under the charge of the late Mr. Douglas I had only one complaint to make, and that in the direction of over-crowding; in this way I thought he erred, in common with the visiting magistrates, residents in the island, most of them being merchants. It struck me that, as regards the Chinese prisoners, their confinement was made rather too comfortable, and that the prison was likely to become a place of rather too favourite resort; in other words, the prisoners were so well treated that their confinement almost ceased to be a punishment. Your table of figures might seem conclusive to any one who did not know the character of the criminal population of Hongkong. The lower class of Chinese who inhabit the colony, and who flee to it from the mainland, are amongst the most dangerous, persistent, and insubordinate of any criminals I know of, and the amount of crime committed by them in Hongkong is astounding, bearing no comparison with that committed in any other part of the world; while the difficulty of detection and bringing offenders to justice is almost beyond belief, as the more respectable Chinese dare not give evidence, in consequence of the terror exercised over them by the gangs of ruffians living in their midst. Perhaps you will be astonished to hear that it is unsafe for a European to take a walk across the island alone even in broad daylight, and that robberies, accompanied with terrible and cruel violence, are of common occurrence in the streets. The offences against prison discipline of which the perpetrators of these crimes are guilty during their confinement are such as, in my humble judgment, can only be punished or checked by severe corporal punishment; and although it ought not to be administered except with due precaution against excessive severity and danger to life, I am certain that it will be impossible to maintain the necessary amount of discipline without it. As to expecting that Chinese turnkeys will in the face of the consequences that may ensue to them, do their duty, I simply do not expect anything of the kind; but of this I am certain, that so far as the foreign residents of Hongkong are concerned, it is no feeling of inhumanity, or careless disregard of how Chinese criminals are treated which induces them to forward complaints to London on the subject of the changes introduced by their new Governor.

It requires a very stiff upper lip and the exercise of most unpleasant firmness to maintain proper discipline amongst the ruffians who by accident, rather than by the hand of justice, find their way into Hongkong Jail. I trust, Sir, I am as humane as most men, but an experience of twenty years has convinced me that in countries where no rational system of education exists, and where the object of native society seems, from fear or other motive, to be to screen criminals, rather than aid in bringing them to justice, sentimental notions as to corporal punishment, or the particular place where it should be inflicted, are altogether out of place.—I am, Sir, &c.,

Late Mr. Justice's Chief Judge for China and Japan.

THE CHINESE ENVOYS.

Liu Tsu Jen, the late Assistant Chinese Minister at the Court of St. James, left London on the morning of the 13th inst. for Berlin, to which Court he has been accredited as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary. His suite consisted of Li Shu-Chang, Secretary of Legation at this Court, but temporarily detached until the arrival of Liu Tsu Jen's staff from China; Liu Fu yi, Second Secretary; Chang Su Hui, and Mr. H. O. Brown, Attaché, of the Chinese Customs Service.

The reception of Kuo Ta Jen at the Lord

Mayor's Banquet (mentioned elsewhere) was exceedingly cordial, the guests, 900 in number, cheering him, as the saying is, to the echo. He went out through the day, and from a window on the first floor of a house at Temple Bar saw the procession as it passed through that interesting old relic, where, hundreds of years ago, the heads of evil-doers used to be exposed as they are at this day at the gates of the cities in China. If ever he entertained the notion that our absence of show and contempt for ceremonial was a proof of our barbarism he must have felt somewhat astonished when told that the gorgeous pageant which was passing under his eyes had been yearly celebrated in much the same manner for nearly a thousand years. He would see that the processions and the flowing robes of the Chinese were indications of a condition of society not to which we were approaching, but which we had long ago passed through, preserving only the last vestige of it in the Lord Mayor's Show. His Excellency must have seen that, plain people as we are, even a thousand years ago we could have taught them a lesson in things in which his countrymen are apt to consider us deficient.—*L. & C. Express.*

Quotations.

HONGKONG, December 31, 1877.

OPIMUM.—New Patna, cash, \$600 credit.
" Old Patna, cash, None credit.
" New Benares, cash, 570 credit.
" Old Benares, cash, None credit.
" New Malwa, cash, 700 credit.
" Allowance Telia, None credit.
" Old Malwa, cash, 720 credit.
" Allowance Telia, None credit.

Exchange.

Bank, on demand, ... 3/11.
" 30 days' sight, ... 3/11.
" 6 months' sight, ... 3/11.
Credits, ... 4.
Documentary, 6 months' sight, ... 4.
Bombay, demand Rupees, ... 22½.
Calcutta, ... 22½.
Shanghai, demand, ... 72½.
" 30 days' ... 73.
Bar Silver, 17, dwts. B., ... 10 ½.
Byes, ... 9.
Mexicans, ... 1 p. c. pm.
Gold Leaf, ... 26.20.
English Sovereigns, ... 5.06.
Australian Sovereigns, ... 5.06.
Discount, ... 8 c 10.

Shares.

Hongkong Bank, 58 ½ prem.
Union Ins. Society of Canton, \$1,100.
China Traders' Ins. Co., \$2,850.
Chinese Insurance Co., \$265.
Yankee Ins. Assoc., Tia. 650.
North China Ins. Co., Tia. 860.
H.K. Fire Ins. Co., \$685.
China Fire Ins. Co., \$175.
H.K. & W. Dock Co., 4 ½ dia.
H.K. & W. S. Boat Co., 16 ½ dia.
Shanghai Steam Navigation, Tia. 28.
Hongkong Gas Co., \$75.
Hongkong Hotel Co., \$58.
Chinese Imperial Loan, £103.10/.

Temperature.

(Taken at Messrs. Falconer & Co.'s Premises Queen's Road.)

HONGKONG, December 31, 1877.
BAROMETER—9 A.M. ... 30.032.
Do. 1 P.M. ... 29.934.
Do. 4 P.M. ... 29.926.
THERMOMETER—9 A.M. ... 70.
Do. 1 P.M. ... 75.
Do. 4 P.M. ... 74.
Do. (Wet bulb) 9 A.M. ... 70.
Do. Do. 1 P.M. ... 74.
Do. Do. 4 P.M. ... 75.
Do. Maximum ... 75.
Do. Minimum over night ... 63.

Shipping Intelligence.

The following is corrected from the latest London and Colonial Papers:—

VESSELS TO ARRIVE.

AT HONGKONG.

When left. Name. From. Remarks.

May
10, David, Antwerp
12, Chandos, Cardiff
18, Alatra, Melbourne

June
18, Henry Lippett, New York

July
2, Northampton, Baltimore
18, Jesse Jamies

Mails.



STEAM FOR
Singapore, Penang, Point de Galle,
Aden, Suez, Malta, Brindisi,
Ancona, Venice, Mediterranean
Ports, Southampton,
and London.
Also,
Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta.

THE PANISULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM
NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship
TEHERAN, Captain JOHNSON, will leave
this on THURSDAY, the 3rd January,
at Noon.
Tea and General Cargo for London, will
be conveyed to Bombay without transhipment,
arriving one week later than by the
direct route. Suez and Valuable will be
transferred to the Calcutta steamer at Galle.
For further Particulars, apply to
A. LIND, Superintendent.
Hongkong, December 20, 1877. j38

Occidental & Oriental Steam-Ship Company.

TAKING THROUGH CARGO AND
PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED
STATES AND EUROPE,
IN CONNECTION WITH THE
CENTRAL

and
UNION PACIFIC AND CONNECTING
RAILROAD COMPANIES
AND
ATLANTIC STEAMERS.

THE S. S. "GALICIA" will be de-
parted for San Francisco via Yoko-
hama, on FRIDAY, the 4th January, 1878,
at 3 p.m., taking Cargo and Passengers for
Japan, the United States and Europe.
Connection is made at Yokohama, with
Steamers from Shanghai.
Freight will be received on Board until
4 p.m. of the 3rd January, 1878. PARCEL
PACKAGES will be received at the Office
until 5 p.m. same day: all Parcel Packages
should be marked to address in full; value
of same is required.
A REDUCTION is made on RETURN PAS-
SAGE TICKETS.
For further information as to Freight
on Passage, apply to the Agency of the
Company, No. 37, Queen's Road Central.
G. B. EMORY, Agent.
Hongkong, December 12, 1877. j34

Intimations.

NOTICE.

DR. STOUT expects to leave the Colony
PERMANENTLY about the 20th
of January, 1878.
Hongkong, December 22, 1877.

DENTAL NOTICE.

DR. ROGERS begs to say that he has
Returned, and is now ready to
receive Patients.
Hongkong, November 22, 1877.

W. BALL,
CHINA DISPENSARY.

IMPORTER OF DRUGS, CHEMICALS,
DRUGGISTS' SUNDRIES, TOILET
REQUISITES, PATENT MEDI-
CINES AND PERFUMES.
Prescriptions Dispensed with Carefulness,
and Prompt Attention.

PRAYA WEST, HONGKONG,
Near the Canton Steamer's Wharf,
Hongkong, July 13, 1876.

AH YON,
SHIPS' COMPTROLLER AND
STEVEDORE,
No. 57, Praya West,
SHIPPING SUPPLIED WITH ALL KINDS OF
COAL, WATER, BALLAST, FRESH
PROVISIONS & OILMAN'S
STORES.
Of the best quality and at the shortest notice.
Hongkong, May 1, 1876.

OFFICE OF THE SHANGHAI STEAM
NAVIGATION COMPANY,
IN LIQUIDATION.

A SECOND RETURN OF CAPITAL at
the rate of FIVE TAELS per
SHARE will be made to Shareholders of
record on the 1st October, Payable at the
Office of the Liquidators, on the 8th Inst.
Warrants will be delivered by the Under-
signed to Shareholders of their lawful
Certificates for Endorsement.
The Transfer BOOKS of the Company
will be CLOSED from the 2nd to the 8th
Instant, inclusive.
By Order,
RUSSELL & Co.,
Liquidators.
Shanghai, October 2, 1877.

NOW READY.

BUDDHISM, its HISTORY, TENETS AND
PORTENTOUS RELIGION, in three Lectures.
By Dr. E. J. EVELL. Second Edition. One
Volume. 6vo. Price, \$1.50.
Orders will be received by Messrs Lane,
Barnard & Co.
Hongkong, July 21, 1877.

Intimations.

AFONG,
PHOTOGRAPHER.

by appointment, to
H. E. SIR ARTHUR KENNEDY,
GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG;
and to
H. I. H. THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS
OF RUSSIA,
Wyndham Street, formerly ATHLETIC CLUB.
HAS on hand the Largest and Best
collection of Views of China, Pho-
tographic Albums, Frames, Cases, &c., of
assorted sizes. Also S. S. Type, Revolving
Standard Albums, Armorial Monograms
and Postage Stamp Albums, Russia Leather,
Velvet and carved-wood Albums, Cases and
Frames, nice Albums for Cabinet Portraits
only, Portraits of the Generals of the pre-
sent Russo-Turkish War, Eminent British
Statesmen, the two Chinese Ambassadors,
in Cabinet and Carte de Visite sizes.
Coloured Portraits of English Ladies.
Hongkong, August 24, 1877.

KWONG HING CHEUNG & Co.,
COAL MERCHANTS.
Have always on hand for Sale every
description of COAL at Moderate Prices.
Mr. ANTON has been appointed Manager,
and all Orders addressed to him at 57,
Praya, or to Mr. FAR JACK, at 30, King
Lung Street, will receive immediate atten-
tion.
Hongkong, March 19, 1877. mc19

To Let.

A N. OFFICE TO LET.
Apply to
LANDSTEIN & Co.
Hongkong, September 15, 1877.

TO LET.
Nos. 4, and 5, PEH-LI TERRACE, ELGIN
STREET.
Apply to
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
Hongkong, July 30, 1877.

TO LET.
THE FIRST STORY of the Premises
No. 1, Praya East.
Apply to
A. HAHN.
Hongkong, December 3, 1877.

TO LET.
THE Dwelling House and Offices No. 1,
D'Aguilar Street, lately in the occupa-
tion of Messrs DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
The Bungalow No. 17, Wellington Street.
Apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
Hongkong, December 28, 1877.

TO LET ON LEASE.
Possession on the 1st January, 1878.
THE Well-known Premises now occu-
pied as the "STAG HOTEL." The
House contains: Dining Room, Sitting
Room, and 12 Bed-rooms, a large Billiard
Room for Two Tables, Pantry, Bath-rooms,
and W. C. Also, a Bar, in Queen's Road,
and Store attached; Cook House, 2 Boys
Rooms, &c. Gas and Water laid on.
For further Particulars, apply to
J. ARMSTRONG,
Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, November 30, 1877.

TO LET.
HOUSE No. 10, Albany Road, lately
occupied by the Rev. R. H. KID.
"Bianee Villa," Pok-foo-lum, Furnished.
Nos. 9 and 11, Queen's Road Central,
with spacious Godowns attached, at present
occupied by Messrs BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.
Hongkong, October 13, 1877.

INSURANCES.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.
AGENCIES at all the Treaty Ports of
China and Japan, and at Singapore,
Saidon and Penang.
Risks accepted, and Policies of Insurance
granted at the rates of Premium current at
the above mentioned Ports.
NO CHARGE FOR POLICY FEES.
JAS. B. COUGHTRY,
Secretary.
Hongkong, November 1, 1871.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE
INSURANCE COMPANY.
Incorporated by Royal Charter and
Special Acts of Parliament.
ESTABLISHED 1809.
CAPITAL £2,000,000.

THE Underigned, Agents at Hongkong
for the above Company, are prepared
to grant Policies against FIRE, to the
extent of £10,000 on any Building, or
on Merchandise in the same, at the
usual Rates, subject to a discount of 20
per cent.
GILMAN & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, July 6, 1875.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY.

THE Underigned are prepared to grant
Policies against FIRE to the extent of
£45,000 on Buildings, or on Goods stored
therein, at current local rates, subject to a
Discount of 20% on the Premium.
NORTON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, January 1, 1874.

INSURANCES.

YANGTZE INSURANCE ASSO-
CIATION.

CAPITAL—Fully Paid-up.....Tls. 420,000
PERMANENT RESERVE.....230,000
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND.....75,000
Total Capital and accumula-
tions this date.....Tls. 725,000
Directors:
F. B. FORBES, Esq., Chairman.
M. W. BOYD, Esq., C. KRESS, Esq.
M. P. EVANS, Esq., C. LUCAS, Esq.
Secretaries:
Messrs. RUSSELL & Co., Shanghai.
London Bankers:
Messrs. BARNES BROTHERS & Co.
Agencies in:
HONGKONG, LONDON, SAN FRANCISCO, and
the Principal Ports in the East.

POLICIES granted on Marine Risks to
all parts of the World, at current
rates.
Subject to a charge of 12% for interest
on Shareholders' Capital, ALL THE PROFITS
OF THE UNDERWRITING BUSINESS will be
annually distributed among all Contributors
of Business in proportion to the
premium paid by them.
RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, October 1, 1877.

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY.
(LIMITED.)
NOTICE.
POLICIES granted at current rates on
Marine Risks to all parts of the World.
In accordance with the Company's Articles
of Association, Two Thirds of the Profits
are distributed annually to Contributors,
whether Shareholders or not, in proportion
to the net amount of Premiums contributed
by each, the remaining third being carried
to Reserve Fund.
OLEPHANT & Co.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, April 17, 1875.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
THE Underigned, Agents for the above
Company, are prepared to grant In-
surances at current rates.
MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents, Royal Insurance Company.
Hongkong, October 27, 1874.

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY.
(FIRE AND LIFE.)
CAPITAL—TWO MILLIONS STERLING.
THE Underigned are prepared to grant
POLICIES against the Risk of FIRE on
Buildings or on Goods stored therein, on
Oceans in Matchless, on Goods on board
Vessels and on Risks of Vessels in Har-
bour, at the usual Terms and Conditions.
Proposals for Life Insurances will be re-
ceived, and transmitted to the Directors
for their decision.
If required, protection will be granted on
first class Lives up to £1000 on a Single
Life.
For Rates of Premiums, forms of pro-
posals or any other information, apply to
ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.
Agents Hongkong & Canton.
Hongkong, January 4, 1867.

SHEONG ON FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.
CAPITAL ONE MILLION DOLLARS.
Directors:
KWOK ACHONG, Merchant.
PANG YIM, Merchant.
HO SAM, of Hop Yik Chan, Merchant.
LOO YEE, of the Yee On Hong, Merchant.
LEE SING, of Lai Hing Firm, Merchant.
CHANG SING YONG, Merchant.
CHOW CHAN, Merchant.
Manager—HO AMEL.

POLICIES against FIRE granted on
BUILDINGS and on Goods stored
therein at CURRENT RATES, subject to
DISCOUNT of 20% on the Premium.
OFFICE, 45, Bonham Strand.
Hongkong, August 23, 1877. au23

THE LONDON ASSURANCE
INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER
of
His Majesty King George The First,
A. D. 1720.
THE Underigned having been appointed
Agents for the above Corporation are
prepared to grant Insurances as follows:
Marine Department.
Policies at current rates payable either
here, in London or at the principal Ports
of India, China and Australia.
Fire Department.
Policies issued for long or short periods at
current rates. A discount of 20% allowed.
Life Department.
Policies issued for sums not exceeding
£5,000 at reduced rates.
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.,
Hongkong, July 25, 1872.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE
COMPANY OF MANCHESTER
AND LONDON.
THE Underigned have been appointed
Agents for the above Company at
Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai
and Hankow, and are prepared to grant
Insurances at current rates.
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.
Hongkong, October 16, 1869.

Merchant Vessels in Hongkong Harbour.

Exclusives of late Arrivals and Departures reported to-day.

To facilitate finding the position of any vessel in the Harbour, the Anchorage is divided into eight Sections, commencing at
Green Island. Vessels near the Hongkong shore are marked A., near the Kowloon shore B., and those in the body of the
Shipping or midway between each shore are marked C., in conjunction with the figures denoting the section.
Section.
1. From Green Island to the Gas Works.
2. From Gas Works to the Novelty Iron Works.
3. From Novelty Iron Works to the Harbour Master's Office.
4. From Harbour Master's Office to the P. and O. Co.'s Office.
5. From P. and O. Co.'s Office to Peddar's Wharf.
6. From Peddar's Wharf to the Naval Yard.
7. From Naval Yard to the Pier.
8. From Pier to East Point.

Vessel's Name.	Class.	Captain.	Flag and Rig.	Tons.	Date of Arrival.	Consignees or Agents.	Destination.	Remarks.
Steamers.								
Altona	4	Müller	Ger.	str.	1179	Dec. 30	Wm. Pustau & Co.	Shanghai
Brabant	4	Reddell	Brit.	str.	891	Dec. 31	Gibb, Livingston & Co.	Australian Ports
Camoes	3	Brit.	str.	95	Oct. 2	Kwok Acheong		2nd prox.
Caribbrooke	2	Wharton	Brit.	str.	986	Dec. 19	Man Hing Chan	4th prox.
Chinkiang	2	Orr	Brit.	str.	799	Dec. 22	Stemssen & Co.	
Danube	2	Clanchy	Brit.	str.	570	Dec. 12	Fat Hon	
Fame	2	Stapani	Brit.	str.	117	H. K. & W. P. Co.	Bangkok.
Flutahire	6	Thomas	Brit.	str.	1243	Dec. 23	H. Kier & Co.	K'loon Dock
Geddo	3	Kidley	Brit.	str.	1712	Dec. 20	O. & S. S. Co.	To-day
Kelcham Horn	3	Alton	Brit.	str.	1023	Dec. 20	Wm. Pustau & Co.	Fug Plying
Malabar	2	Gould	Brit.	str.	1204	Dec. 30	Kwok Acheong	K'loon Dock
Marble	2	Munoz	Span.	str.	359	Oct. 18	Remedios & Co.	4th prox.
Menelaus	6	Scale	Brit.	str.	1559	Dec. 29	Butterfield & Swire	Ab'deen Dock
Mirzapore	2	Farish	Brit.	str.	2010	Dec. 31	P. & O. S. N. Co.	
Nelson	2	Staples	Brit.	str.	894	Dec. 24	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	
Norna	2	Walker	Brit.	str.	606	Dec. 30	Kwok Acheong	
Panay	2	Goyenchoe	Span.	str.	600	Oct. 30	Remedios & Co.	
Parace	5	Sergent	Brit.	str.	1015	Dec. 24	Melchers & Co.	2nd prox.
Perusia	3	McKirdy	Bel.	str.	2000	Nov. 24	Olyphant & Co.	Sands' Slip
Sea Gull	5	Roberts	Brit.	str.	414	Sept. 19	Insurance Company	2nd prox.
Sin Nanzing	5	Drage	Brit.	str.	714	Dec. 21	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	
Sunda	5	Reeves	Brit.	str.	1029	Dec. 19	P. & O. S. N. Co.	Shanghai
Taiwan	5	Young	Brit.	str.	408	Dec. 29	Douglas Laprak & Co.	K'loon Dock
Tibre	5	Ghirard	Foh.	str.	1009	Dec. 24	Messageries Maritimes	2nd prox.
Tigre	5	Lormier	Foh.	str.	2500	Dec. 31	Messageries Maritimes	2nd prox.
Titern Abbey	5	Tindale	Brit.	str.	736	Dec. 27	Stemssen & Co.	To-morrow
Waahi	5	Hunter	Brit.	str.	283	Dec. 28	Landstein & Co.	2nd prox.
Yesso	5	S. Ashton	Brit.	str.	559	Nov. 22	Douglas Laprak & Co.	
Yotting	4	Hawkins	Brit.	str.	289	Dec. 30	Kwok Acheong	K'loon Dock
Sailing Vessels.								
Ada Wilewell	2	Wiswell	Am. Sm. so.	558	Nov. 28	Captain		
Alden Besse	4	Noyes	Amer. bge.	842	Dec. 27	Rozario & Co.		
Alphington	6	Elliot	Brit. bge.	407	Nov. 26	Douglas Laprak & Co.		
Alphington	6	Cunningham	Brit. bge.	326	Sept. 6	Wieler & Co.		
Amie Florence	6	Johnson	Brit. bge.	657	Dec. 8	Borneo Co., Limited		For Sale
Angele	2	Barbeyron	Foh. bge.	891	Nov. 14	Carlowitz & Co.		
Annie M. Smull	2	Packer	Amer. sh.	1053	Dec. 4	Russell & Co.		
Annie S. Hall	4	Nelson	Amer. bkline.	455	Dec. 10	Captain		
Assens	3	Wandel	Dan. bge.	265	Dec. 4	Eduard Schellhaus & Co.		
B. F. Watson	3	Hawkins	Amer. bge.	993	Nov. 25	Rozario & Co.		
Beethoven	3	Haje	Ger. bge.	840	Nov. 25	Melchers & Co.		Sands' Slip
Bleker	3	Reynolds	Brit. sh.	1003	Dec. 11	Order		Sands' Slip
Black Prince	4	Ingils	Brit. sh.	760	Nov. 29	Turner & Co.		
Brena	4	Timpe	Ger. bge.	380	Nov. 21	Wieler & Co.		
Brabant	4	Madleston	Brit. bge.	394	Dec. 17	Russell & Co.		
Broomhall	4	Bate	Brit. sh.	1379	Oct. 26	Russell & Co.		
Bua Pan	2	Moller	Slam. sh.	579	Dec. 19	Kin-tye-long		
Canton	2	Crantz	Ger. bge.	373	Dec. 14	Stemssen & Co.		
Carmelita & Ida	3	Kotelnikoff	Ger. bge.	438	Dec. 5	Eduard Schellhaus & Co.		
Charles Monreau	3	Quatrasous	Foh. bge.	352	Nov. 14	Landstein & Co.		
Charlotte Andrews	3	Staples	Brit. bge.	353	Nov. 30	Rozario & Co.		
Charter Oak	3	Shrewsbury	Amer. sh.	963	Oct. 24	Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.		
Chlorum	3	Evans	Brit. sh.	1884	Sept. 25	Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.		
City of Halifax	7	Evans	Brit. sh.	860	Dec. 24	Meyer & Co.		
Clara	6	Ingraham	Amer. sh.	938	Nov. 7	Arnold, Karberg & Co.		
Colorado	6	Vincent	Amer. sh.	1075	Oct. 16	Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.		
Corsan	6	White	Brit. sh.	150	Sept. 20	Insurance Co.		
Crosswell	6	Fozer	Brit. bge.	454	Dec. 3	Arnold, Karberg & Co.		
Echo	3	Stolz	Slam. sh.	636	Dec. 28	Kin-tye-long		
Fabius	3	Barry	Brit. bge.	798	Dec. 28	Arnold, Karberg & Co.		
Falcon	3	Westergaard	Ger. bge.	767	Nov. 28	Melchers & Co.		
Ferdinand	7	Frazer	Brit. bge.	387	Nov. 30	Wieler & Co.		
Ferdinand Drumm	7	Schweer	Ger. Sm. so.	282	Nov. 19	Melchers & Co.		
Florida	3	Peterson	Slam. bge.	449	Dec. 20	Tak-Mee		
Fortuna	2	Garginto	Ital. bge.	494	Dec. 19	Thos. Howard & Co.		
Pao Stance	4	Walters	Ger. bge.	447	Dec. 15	Stemssen & Co.		
Friedrich Parther	4	McEachern	Brit. bge.	456	Dec. 2	H. Kier & Co.		
Glenfruin	3	Long	Brit. bge.	472	Dec. 22	Chinese		
Glenfruin	3	Watts	Brit. bge.	372	Nov. 16	Landstein & Co.		
Glory	2	Thompson	Slam. bge.	130	Nov. 14	Tak-Mee		
Golden Russell	2	Richardson	Brit. bge.	408	Nov. 19	Wm. Pustau & Co.		
Golden Spur	2	Parrell	Brit. sh.	656	Dec. 22	Meyer & Co.		
Great Admiral	4	Thompson	Amer. sh.	1676	Aug. 19	Russell & Co.		
Helene	4	Volquardsen	Ger. bge.	872	Dec. 17	Wieler & Co.		
Hermann	4	Pena	Ger. bge.	453	Dec. 6	Wm. Pustau & Co.		
Hermann	4	Biehl	Ger. bge.	425	Dec. 6	Wieler & Co.		
Hopewell	4	Dancaster	Brit. Sm. so.	216	Dec. 19	Edwards & Swire		
Humboldt	4	Stoll	Ger. bge.	330	Dec. 17	Eduard Schellhaus & Co.		
Indian	3	Cave	Brit. bge.	373	Nov. 24	Chinese		
Indra	4	Hansen	Ger. sch.	257	Nov. 21	Wm. Pustau & Co.		
Indra	4	Moberg	Russ. sh.	1365	Dec. 20	Landstein & Co.		
Indra	4	Nickerson	Am. Sm. so.	542	Dec. 18	Butterfield & Swire		
Indra	4	Windt	Ger. bge.	268	Dec. 16	Stemssen & Co.		
Indra	4	Wilson	Brit. bge.	549	Oct. 20	Meyer & Co.		
Indra	4	Giese	Brit. bge.	580	Dec. 3	Rozario & Co.		
Indra	4	Wilkins	Brit. bg.	187	Dec. 25	Meyer & Co.		
Indra	4	Sanderson	Slam. bge.	422	Oct. 21	Tak-Mee		
Indra	4	Kluge	Ger. bge.	Nov. 26	Wieler & Co.		
Indra	4	Thompson	Brit. bge.	330	Sept. 19	Wieler & Co.		
Indra	4	Bummetter	Ger. bge.	465	Sept. 25	Rozario & Co.		
Indra	3	Gulbonk	Foh. bge.	425	Nov. 25	Carlowitz & Co.		
Indra	4	Houes	Am. Sm. so.	266	Dec. 23	Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.		
Indra	4	Logan	Brit. bge.	502	Dec. 4	Arnold, Karberg & Co.		
Indra	4	Erior	Brit. bge.	472	Dec. 5	Arnold, Karberg & Co.		
Indra	4	Verate	Am. Sm. so.	434	Dec. 7	Captain		
Indra	4	Wischhusen	Amer. bge.	404	Nov. 21	Olyphant & Co.		
Indra	4	Dynga	Brit. sh.	920	Dec. 20	Melchers & Co.		
Indra	4	Longmuller	Brit. bge.	881	Oct. 20	Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.		
Indra	4	Scott	Brit. bge.	881	Nov. 25	Russell & Co.		
Indra	4	Littra	Ger. bg.	370	Dec. 17	Arnold, Karberg & Co.		
Indra	4	Moller	Ger. Sm. so.	311	Dec. 23	Eduard Schellhaus & Co.		
Indra	7	Stoll	Ger. sh.	1157	Dec. 28	Wm. Pustau & Co.		
Indra	3	Richards	Brit. bge.	590	Oct. 20	Wm. Pustau & Co.		
Indra	3	Schultz	Ger. bge.	898	Dec. 27	Wm. Pustau & Co.		
Indra	7	Case	Brit. sh.	1075	Dec. 23	Order		
Indra	4	Bryant	Amer. sch.	395	Nov. 8	Russell & Co.		
Indra	5	Cobb	Brit. sh.	1049	Dec. 22	Adamson, Bell & Co.		
Indra	5	Parazolo	Foh. bge.	758	Dec. 5	Landstein & Co.		
Indra	2	Leroy	Foh. bge.	622	Nov. 22	Carlowitz & Co.		
Indra	8	Francis	Foh. bg.	236	Nov. 26	Carlowitz & Co.		
Indra	4	Durand	Foh. bge.	388	Nov. 8	Carlowitz & Co.		
Indra	3	Clough	Amer. sh.	1090	Sept. 5	Russell & Co.		
Indra	2	Williams	Slam. bge.	654	Dec. 27	Chinese		
Indra	4	Lozer	Ger. sch.	60	Dec. 30	Captain		
Indra	3	Dicks	Ger. bge.	302	Dec. 22	Melchers & Co.		
Indra	4	Camus	Span. bg.	261	Dec. 4	Brandao & Co.		
Indra	4	Wright	Brit. Sm. so.	289	Nov. 11	Borneo Co., Limited		
Indra	6	Gallichan	Brit. bge.	534	Dec. 20	Wm. Pustau & Co.		
CANTON.								
Clark	Brit.	str.	994	Dec. 27	Stemssen & Co.			
Thompson	Brit.	str.	1201	Dec. 26	H. Kier & Co.			
Hopkins	Brit.	str.	934	Dec. 27	Stemssen & Co.			